

Basques in the Americas From 1492 to 1850: A Chronology



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FORWARD

The Basques have been a successful minority for centuries, keeping their unique culture, physiology and language alive and distinct longer than any other Western European population. In addition, outside of the Basque homeland, their efforts in the development of the New World were instrumental in helping make the U.S., Mexico, Central and South America what they are today. Most history books, however, have generally referred to these early Basque adventurers either as Spanish or French. Rarely was the term “Basque” used to identify these pioneers. Recently, interested scholars have been much more definitive in their descriptions of the origins of these Argonauts. They have identified Basque fishermen, sailors, explorers, soldiers of fortune, settlers, clergymen, frontiersmen and politicians who were involved in the discovery and development of the Americas from before Columbus’ first voyage through colonization and beyond. This also includes generations of men and women of Basque descent born in these new lands.

As examples, we now know that the first map to ever show the Americas was drawn by a Basque and that the first Thanksgiving meal shared in what was to become the United States was actually done so by Basques 25 years before the Pilgrims. We also now recognize that many familiar cities and features in the New World were named by early Basques. These facts and others are shared on the following pages in a chronological review of some, but by no means all, of the involvement and accomplishments of Basques in the exploration, development and settlement of the Americas. While this paper deals primarily with what is now the Southwestern United States, Mexico, and Central America, Basques have made major contributions in South America, the Philippines, Eastern Canada and other areas of the world as well.

This paper includes the extraordinary and the mundane; the good and the bad. It is not intended to be a thorough history of Basques in the New World nor is it an exhaustive study of the topic. Rather, the names and events listed herein are an attempt to demonstrate this extensive Basque involvement and to stimulate the reader’s individual interest in the subject. As such, I have not footnoted or indexed the text. This will not please academia but it makes for greater ease in casual reading. The information was gleaned from the listed references. (All rights are reserved and permission to cite is granted.)

I must thank my wife Judy and the entire Errea family, without whom this project would have never been undertaken. Her paternal grandparents, Gualberto Errea and Manuela Errea Echenique came to California from Spain in 1910 and 1918, respectively. I must also thank two very important Colonial Basques scholars: Donald T. Garate and Joxe Mallea-Olaetxe. Both have been unselfish with their help to me on this project. Lastly, this paper is dedicated to the thousands of Basque men and women who came to the U.S. in the last waves of immigration in the mid-Nineteenth Century and early to mid-Twentieth Century. Their fortitude, work ethic and assimilation into a new society and culture are both admirable and humbling. According to Basque author Pierre Lhande, writing in 1909, “To be an authentic Basque, there are three requirements: To carry a sonorous name that indicates the origin; to speak the language of the sons of Aitor, and...to have an uncle in the Americas.” This paper is for all those uncles-- and aunts.

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Introduction

Basque Whalers and Fishermen (Basque names will be in **bold** print.)

Before 1492- Archaeological evidence places Basque whalers and cod fishermen in what is now Newfoundland, Canada. Since the Middle Ages, Basque seamen provide Europe with its whale oil and whalebone. When the treacherous waters of the Bay of Biscay are depleted of easy to catch whales and codfish, they turn their ships north towards Iceland and west towards North America. These sailors intensively explore the eastern Canadian coast and parts of Iceland before building whaling camps, probably before 1500. From 1500 to 1600 thousands of Basque whalers inhabit at least 12 Basque whaling villages during each five-month season along the North American coast. They make the 2,000-mile, one month long trip, to and from Europe in 50-foot long galleons that carry 50,000 gallons of whale oil. They hunt whales in 25-foot long rowboats called *txalupas*.

In 1543, on his “Voyage of Discovery,” explorer Jacques Cartier is surprised to see a Basque fishing ship already anchored in a Labrador harbor he thought he was discovering. Cartier and John Cabot, official discoverers of the St. Lawrence River and *Terranova* (Labrador and Newfoundland) actually just become formal claimants to lands already known for years by Basque fishermen and whalers.

The western part of Newfoundland was once known as **Côte des Basques** and present day **Port-Aux-Basques** is shown as early as 1612 on a map of eastern Canada drawn by Samuel de Champlain. (The Canadian government, several universities and the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., continue on-going archaeological research at these ancient Basque whaling stations.)

In addition, historian Robert Delort of the University of Geneva has discovered evidence that New World fur trade may go back further than the whaling expeditions. Delort found British customs records indicating Basque traders landed heavy volumes of beaver pelts at English ports from 1380 to 1433. Because the pelts were delivered in rolls the way Quebec Indians stored them and because northern European beaver populations were nearly extinct at that time, Delort speculates the source to be the New World.

On a related note, historian Tony Horwitz reports that in 1602 British explorer Bartholomew Gosnold landed his ship on the southern tip of Maine and was met by an Indian canoe rigged with a mast and sails. The English first mistook it for a European fishing vessel. Horwitz relates that one of the chroniclers of the trip reported that the Indians “spoke diverse Christian words and seemed to understand much more than we.” Horwitz says they knew these words because they had been trading with Basque fishermen for years.

Basically, however, these early Basques were not interested in colonizing or settling this new land. Nor were they interested in converting the natives to Catholicism. They were simply interested in economic gain and were anxious to return to Europe with their pelts, whale products or codfish. The conquest, exploration, colonization and exploitation of the New World begins with Columbus and his sailings, starting in 1492.

Basques in the Americas from 1492 to 1850

Christopher Columbus

Not much is known of Christopher Columbus' early life except that he was probably born in Genoa. However, his parents' heritage is unknown. A question that has been posed is; was Columbus Basque? Supporting this theory, Spanish historian Fernando del Valle Lersundi argues that Columbus was from Nafarroa and, at one time, fought as a Basque pirate for his uncle, Admiral **Guillermo de Casenove**. Lersundi states Casenove was a Basque pirate and was variously known as **Colon**, **Coullon** or **Coulon**. In the battle of Cape St. Vincent, near Lisbon in August 1476, del Valle relates that Columbus fought with his uncle's pirate fleet against Genoa under the name of Columbo Junior when he was just 14 years old. In addition, in 1485 when Columbus' wife dies, he spends the rest of his life with Basque **Beatriz Enriquez de Arana**, who is introduced to him by **Diego de Arana**. Diego is an officer on Columbus' first voyage to the New World. Columbus and Beatriz never marry and have an illegitimate son, **Fernando**. Columbus dies May 20, 1506.

(At the time of Columbus' first voyage the native population of Mexico was seventeen million, two and one-half times greater than the population of Spain. There were another three million natives in the Caribbean Islands and more than five million in Central America. South America may have held an additional twenty-four million. This was all about to change.)

Columbus' Voyages--Number One (Three ships) August 2, 1492

Columbus' flagship, the *Santa Maria* (nicknamed "*La Gallega*") is built in Basque shipyards and is the property of Bizkaian, **Juan de la Cosa** who is also its shipmaster. (De la Cosa is also referred to as **Lakotsa**, **Lakotza**, **LaCosa**, **Lacoza** and **Juan Vizcaíno**.) Among the other Basques on the *Santa Maria* are: **Juan de Lekeitio**, boatswain from Bizkaia; **Martín de Urtubia**, cabin boy from Natxitua, Bizkaia; **Lope Aresti**, caulker from Erandio, Bizkaia; **Pérez Vizcaíno**, cooper from Lekeitio, Bizkaia; **Domingo de Anchiá**, cooper from Ispazter, Bizkaia; **Diego de Arana**, mentioned earlier, who is expedition bailiff and of Basque origin from Córdoba; **Domingo Vizcaino**; **Juan de Urniga** and **Pedro de Bilbao**. Among the Basques on the *Niña* are: **Juan Ruiz de la Peña**, from Bizkaia; **Juan Martínez de Açogue**, from Deba (Deva), Gipuzkoa; **Pedro Arraes**, from Deba, **Juan Arraes** (son of Pedro), also from Deba; **Miguel de Soria** and **Pedro de Soria**. Among the Basques on the *Pinta* are: **Juan Quintero**, from Algorta, Bizkaia; and **Ojer de Berástegui**, from Gipuzkoa.

(Professor **Joxe Mallea-Olaetxe** and Basque historian **Donald Garate** report that most Basque names are toponyms—taken from geographical locations. In addition, Garate contends that the additions of "de" and accent marks in Basque names are Castilian or Spanish additions. However, some New World Basques made the personal decision to add "de" to their names for the reason of prestige and/or to show nobility. For a complete explanation see Garate's "Basque Names, Nobility and Ethnicity on the Spanish Frontier.")

The Basques assert their unity early-on during this first voyage. Columbus told his crews that they would reach land within 750 leagues of the Canary Islands. When they hadn't reached land at 800 leagues, the Basques on the *Santa Maria* threatened to throw him overboard. Only a quick meeting of the crews and officers of all three ships kept this from happening.

It should be noted here what Basque historian **José Manuel Azcona Pastor** says of the close-knit unity of the Basques; “[In the New World] the Basques participated willingly in all of the enterprises in which their presence was sought by the Spanish monarchy. They often acted collectively, as they represented an ethnic group and were seen as such by the Crown's other settlers. They frequently used Euskara, their native language, to provide greater group strength and unity. Nevertheless, the observable clanlike spirit demonstrated by the Basques could camouflage the fact that they were often highly individualistic and competitive among themselves. Not infrequently, they resolutely defied the established powers through their leading roles in desertions, rebellions, mutinies, and various conspiracies...”

After making landfall October 11 in the Bahamas, the Columbus' crews replenish their supplies and continue sailing the Caribbean area. On December 25, 1492, the *Santa Maria* becomes shipwrecked off the coast of present day Haiti. The first Spanish-American establishment in the New World, *La Navidad*, is built with the remains of this Basque ship. As Columbus and **Juan de la Cosa** return to Spain for provisions and additional men, thirty-nine of the crew stay behind at *La Navidad* under the command of **Diego de Arana**. All the Bizkaians remain behind. (Apparently, Columbus intentionally ran the *Santa Maria* onto a sandbar. In order to claim new lands, the Spanish government required a settlement to be built on the new territory. In addition, he could not ask for volunteers to stay ashore while he returned to Spain. The “shipwreck” solved both problems.)

Columbus did not set out to “discover America.” In fact, Columbus never set foot on nor saw what is now America or even North America. He set out to reach the Spice Islands by sailing west. Some historians call it “history's most magnificent accident.”

Voyage Two (Sixteen ships) September 25, 1493

Juan de Arbolancha and **Iñigo de Artieta** organize Columbus' second voyage in Bizkaia. **Juan Perez de Loyola**, the older brother of the future **Saint Ignatius**, outfits one of the ships. Six Basque ships in a total of sixteen sail in July with many Basque crewmen. **Juan de la Cosa** is master of the *Marigalante* and is chosen by Columbus to be his official cartographer. A total of 1,500 men make the trip. Among the other Basques on this second voyage are the following, several of which will play prominent roles in the development of the New World:

Francisco de Garay, Sebastián de Olano, Juan Ortiz de Matienzo, Hernando de Guevara, Luis de Arteaga, Bartolomé Salcedo, Maiguel de Muncharaz, Luis de Lizarzu, Juan de Azúa, Pedro de Arana, Gabriel Butrón, Hernando de Berrio, Juan Ezquerria, Juan de Oñate, Diego de Arciaga, Pedro Vizcaíno, Juan de Barruti, Juan de Zamudio, Adrián de Múxica, Pedro Gámiz, Domingo de Escobar and Juan Ibarra de Ibañez.

As Columbus returns to the island of Hispaniola, his ships are loaded with all types of foodstuffs, seeds, plants and domestic animals, including horses, cattle, sheep, hogs and chickens to maintain the colonies he expects to establish. Other organisms also make the voyage. They are in the soil, on the plants and inside and on the animals. These are all types of parasites, insects, seeds, worms, fungi and other new life forms not native to North and South America. These non-native organisms are responsible for permanent, major changes in the ecosystems of the New World.

However, all Columbus finds at the site of *La Navidad* are burned ruins. The natives report that several of the 39 men he had left behind had killed each other in arguments and that the Indians had killed the remainder because of, among other things, the Europeans' greed for gold and the native women.

On the other hand, when Columbus first landed in the Bahamas, these islands are home to as many as eighty thousand native people. Ten years later, the Bahamas are uninhabited; the people killed by disease or taken away to serve as slaves in Spain's colonies in the New World. (Unfortunately, according to historian C. W. Ceram, Columbus becomes the first in a long line of slave hunters plying the outlying islands of the North American continent for human chattel.) By 1518, due to imported European diseases and difficult forced labor, captive Caribbean natives begin to die off in large numbers and the importation of African slaves begins. The Africans are less vulnerable to the European diseases.

For the Native Americans, European-introduced ailments such as diphtheria, trachoma, whooping cough, chickenpox, bubonic plague, typhoid fever, scarlet fever, amoebic dysentery, influenza and especially, smallpox and measles, are disastrous. Smallpox and measles attack the Indians in what one expert describes as, "possibly...the greatest demographic disaster in the history of the world."

Historian David Weber asserts that, "...it may be that disease, the least visible trans-Atlantic baggage, was Spain's most important weapon in the conquest of America." However, new forms of diseases from the Indians also find their way back to Europe. After Columbus returns to Spain, syphilis becomes the scourge of the Continent.

From Columbus' second voyage on, as the Spaniards brought more and more horses to the New World, occasionally the ships carrying them would come to an area of calm winds that would dangerously prolong the voyage, usually at about 30 degrees Latitude. Water and food would have to be rationed. The horses were typically of poor stock and many would become sick and die. The crews had to throw so many of these horses overboard that the area became known as, and is still recognized as, "The Horse Latitudes."

1496-Shortly after the first two voyages of Columbus, **Pedro de Arbolancha**, from Bilbao, becomes the major supplier and merchant to the New World.

Voyage Three (Eight ships) May 30, 1498

Among the Basques on this voyage are: **Lope de Olano, Pedro de Araba, Pedro de Ledesma, Hernando de Guevara, Martín Arriarán, Bernardo de Ibarra, Juan de la Cosa, Adrián de Múxica, Pedro Gámiz** and **Domingo de Escobar**.

On this third voyage Columbus has to settle several serious disputes between his brother, Bartolomé--who he had left in charge on the island of Hispaniola after the second voyage--and unhappy colonists. Bizkaians Adrián de Múxica, Pedro Gámiz and Domingo de Escobar are among the Basques who revolt against the heavy-handed rule of the Columbus family. In addition, Gipuzkoan Hernando de Guevara, marries an Indian princess in what is the first mixed marriage in the New World. Columbus' *alcalde mayor*, Francisco Roldán, orders the marriage annulled. Guevara refuses and, led by Múxica, another revolt is started by the Basques.

This is **La Cosa's** third and last voyage with Columbus to the Americas. (In all, La Cosa makes seven voyages to the New World.) On this trip, Columbus orders La Cosa to sign the Perez-Luna Agreement that states that Cuba is a continent. La Cosa is positive that this is not the case. Columbus remarks that, "Juan de la Cosa thinks he knows more than I do in the art of navigating." (Columbus never believed Cuba was an island.) In 1500 Columbus and his two brothers are arrested due to complaints from the colonists. They are taken to Spain in chains but all charges are dropped.

1498- **Juan de la Cosa** is the first European to see South America and surely one of the first to set foot on it. In 1499 he discovers present day Venezuela. The 1498-99 expedition also includes Amerigo Vespucci for whom America is named and Alonso de Ojeda. In 1509 Ojeda will be partly responsible for La Cosa's death.

1500- **La Cosa** continues to explore the Caribbean and draws the *Carta de Marear o Mapamundi*, the first map of the world to include the Americas. It is the only known map made by an actual participant on the first two voyages of Columbus that includes representations of Cuba (correctly shown as an island) Hispaniola and Puerto Rico. La Cosa's maps are the most valued of any in his day as he has sailed more miles in the Caribbean than even Columbus.

1500- Vasco Nuñez de Balboa, the first European to see the eastern edge of the Pacific Ocean, is brought to the New World by Rodrigo de Bastidas and **Juan de la Cosa**.

1501- **La Cosa** discovers and maps the coasts of present day Columbia and part of Panama.

1502-In January an expedition associated with Gipuzkoan merchant **Jaun de Vergara** consisting of four ships sets sail for the New World. Fellow Gipuzkoan **Hernando de Guevara** (who had married the Indian princess in 1498) captains one of the ships, the *Santa Ana*. In May they establish Santa Cruz, the first European colony on the South American continent, in what is now Columbia.

Columbus' Fourth and Last Voyage (Four ships) April 13, 1502

The ships are the *Santa María*, *Capitana*, *Gallega* and the *Vizcaína*. The *Vizcaína* is the property of **Juan de Orquina** of Getaria, Gipuzkoa, and has a Basque pilot. There are 140 men with Columbus on his final crossing. Of that number, just over 20 are Basque. Among the Basques are: **Pedro de Ledesma**, pilot; **Martín de Fuenterrabía**, boatswain; **Martín de Arrieta**, cooper; **Domingo Vizcaínos**, caulker; **Diego de Arana**, caulker; **Martín Machín**, carpenter; **Pedro Moya**, sailor; **Martín de Atín**, sailor and **Gonzalo de Salazar**, trumpeter. Of the Basques on the voyage, six will die during the trip before they reach Cuba as a result of the difficulties faced on these early sailings. This final voyage is a disaster for Columbus. He returns to Spain a broken man.

1508- Two Spaniards are sent by the king of Spain to the New World to establish settlements on the coast of present day Columbia. One, Diego de Nicuesa, is wealthy and a member of the Spanish Court. Basque **Lope de Olano** accompanies him. The other, Alonso de Ojeda, doesn't have the finances needed to fund his part of the expedition. He turns to **Juan de la Cosa** who, besides being able to navigate the trip, has also accumulated a sizable fortune from gold taken from Indians in the area of Darien, Columbia. From the very onset there is competition, deceit, bad feelings and trouble between Nicuesa and Ojeda. In addition there is competition between **Olano** and Nicuesa. A duel is challenged between Ojeda and Nicuesa but La Cosa negotiates a truce. La Cosa must also establish a boundary in Columbia between these two warring Spaniards.

1509- Alonso de Ojeda heads an expedition that includes Francisco Pizarro, who later conquers the Incas, and Juan de la Cosa, to the port of Calamar, Columbia. There, Ojeda and Pizarro, against the advice of La Cosa, decide to massacre all the natives in the area. In that fight, **Juan de la Cosa**, age 49, who had made such huge contributions to the exploration of the New World, is slain by poisoned Indian arrows while trying to cover the retreat of Ojeda and Pizarro. Despite their differences, Diego de Nicuesa comes to the aid of Ojeda so they can slaughter every man, woman and child in the tribe responsible for **La Cosa's** death.

1509- During the activities listed above, **Lope de Olano** discovers the mouth of the Changres River in Panama. In this same time period, while searching for the mouth of the Veragua River, Olano allows his fleet to be destroyed on the rocks to discourage desertion. He later regrets his decision and orders the debris collected to build a ship to leave the area. This is probably the first ship built by Europeans in the New World.

1509- **Pánfilo de Narváez** is an officer under Juan de Esquivel in the conquest of Jamaica.

1510- **Lope de Olano** attempts to take over Diego de Nicuesa's command by telling his men that Nicuesa is dead. Nicuesa reappears and tries to imprison Olano on Antigua. However, a relative of Olano, Basque **Juan de Zamudio**, is the Alcalde of Antigua. He releases Olano and forces Nicuesa and the few remaining men loyal to him onto

Nicuesa's most un-seaworthy ship and sends them off towards Hispaniola. The boat leaves Antigua in March of 1511 and is never seen again.

1512- **Pánfilo de Narváez** is an officer under Diego de Velázquez in the conquest of Cuba.

1513- Juan Ponce de Leon and his Basque pilot **Juan Pérez de Ortubia** discover Florida and the Gulf Stream.

1513- Vasco Nuñez de Balboa, brought to the New World by **La Cosa** in 1500, hears of a great sea and much gold to the south, he crosses the Isthmus of Panama and finds the Pacific Ocean. Among the Basques important to the expedition are: **Antonio de Baracaldo, Pedro de Orduña, Pedro de Arbolancha** (the ship owner and merchant from Bilbao,) and **Pascual de Andagoya**, from Araba, who is one of the future founders of Panama City and its first alderman. Other Basques along include **Lorenzo de Galarza, Rodrigo de Motrico, Hernando de Celaya, Juan de Basurto, Pedro de Jaúregui, Juan de Castañeda, Diego de Esquivel, Juan de Avendaño, Martín de Cote and Rodrigo de Lazcano.**

1514- **Pánfilo de Narváez** founds the city of Havana, Cuba.

1514- The Antilles Islands of the Caribbean become the center for the first Basque immigrants to the New World. At this time, **Juan de Zamudio**, mentioned before as the Alcalde of Antigua, is governor of Hispaniola. Among the Basques in the Antilles at the time are: **Juan de Azúa, Juan Vizcaíno, Pedro de Arana, Gabriel Butrón, Hernando de Barrio, Juan Ezquerria, Cristóbal Vizcaíno, Inés Machín, Juan de Bergara, Juan de Oñate, Diego de Arriaga, Pedro de Bergara, Juan de Barruti, Gonzalo Vizcaíno, Juan de Ochoa, Francisco de Barrena, Juan de Aguirre, Miguel de Bergara, Pedro Viscaíno, Diego de Ayala and Juan de Urueba.**

1515- **Francisco de Garay**, born in Sotopuerta, Bizkaia, is appointed Governor of Jamaica. (Garay accompanied Columbus on his second voyage to the New World in 1493.) Garay is related to Diego Columbus' wife, María de Toledo, who is related to King Ferdinand. (Diego Columbus is Christopher Columbus' oldest son.) A huge gold strike in 1502 near Santo Domingo, Española, where he finds a nugget worth thirty-six thousand *pesos de oro*, initiates Garay's fortune. At one time he employs five thousand Indians to tend his livestock and farms. However, his indebtedness to Genoese bankers and his thirst for additional wealth and power to satisfy these bankers eventually leads to his financial demise plus his need for power and wealth eventually lead to his premature death.

In 1511 Garay attempts to conquer the island of Guadalupe but is defeated. Later he outfits four ships for the exploration of the Gulf coast with Alonzo Álvarez de Pineda in command. Garay sends Pineda towards Florida to search for new lands and map the coast of the Gulf of Mexico. Pineda's maps are the first ever made of this coastline. However, Garay faces major competition for new conquests from Francisco Hernández de Córdoba, Juan de Grijalva and Hernán Cortéz.

Pineda reports back to Garay and then immediately returns to the Río Pánuco. This time, Huastec Indians kill “all the horses and soldiers” in the expedition. Álvarez de Pineda’s skin is peeled from his body and hung up and displayed as a trophy.

Later, Garay sails to the Río Pánuco to reestablish his settlement but he finds Cortéz’s men have already taken control of the area and founded a town called Santiesteban del Puerto, present day Pánuco, Vera Cruz. Garay’s men desert him and Cortéz’s influence is too strong for Garay. Finally, he goes to Mexico City to meet with Cortéz. Cortéz is extremely hospitable as he negotiates with Garay for colonization rights on the Río de Las Palmas, which is the present day Soto la Marina River, 150 miles south of the Rio Grande. An agreement is reached and the two attend Christmas Eve Mass together. Very suddenly thereafter, Garay becomes ill and dies on December 27, 1523. Officially, the cause of death is pneumonia. However, there is great suspicion that Cortéz used the occasion to poison **Francisco de Garay** “with pudding and bread.”

1517- Diego de Velázquez, governor of Cuba, sends two ships owned by Bizkaian **Lope Ochoa de Salcedo** to explore the Yucatán peninsula. They sail along the Yucatán and Gulf of Mexico for 6 months collecting gold worth over twenty thousand pesos and encounter a wide variety of cultures and lands proving it is a major land mass and not another island. This expedition provides the emphasis for Hernán Cortéz to mount his quest to find as much gold as possible for the Crown. The Cortez expedition turns out to be the conquest of the mainland of Mexico. Many Basques are with Cortéz in his army and navy and become administrators after the conquest. (See pages 34 and 35 in *Possible Paradises*.)

1517- 1527- Fray **Alonso de Zuazo**, judge of Santo Domingo, is noted for his protection of the native Indians, as are padres **Pedro de Rentería** and **Francisco Marroquín**.

1518- The **Lande** family from Bayonne is involved in transoceanic trade with the east coast of Canada.

1519- **Pascual de Andagoya** founds the capital of Panama. Later he discovers the route into Peru that Francisco Pizarro follows on his conquest of the Inca.

From the discovery of the New World until 1539 the Basque percentage of the European population in Mexico and the Indies has been estimated at approximately 4.5%. However, for the same period of time, Basques accounted for 14% of all the merchants, (the highest percentage of all the groups from Europe); 17.2% of all mariners; 8.8% of all miners; 8.5% of all high-level administrators and 4.8% of all clergymen. There was not a major expedition, religious, commercial or administrative structure that did not contain Basques in numbers out of proportion to the other Europeans in the Americas.

1519-1520- A significant number of Basques are among the troops led by Cortéz and **Pánfilo de Narváez** in their conquest of Mexico. Indeed, according to historian Jose Pastor, with the exceptions of the Extremadurans and Andalusians, no other group of colonists with Cortéz is as numerous as the Basques.

Among the Basques who took part in the conquest of Mexico with Cortéz and **Narváez** are the following:

Juan Arguena, Martín López, Pedro de Anaya, Antón de Arizabala, Juan de Arriaga, Juan Pérez de Arteaga, Pedro de Berrio, Sebastián de Zubieta, Pedro de Carranza, Andrés de Eibar, Juan de Fuenterrabía, Cristóbal Martín de Gamboa, Diego de Arisnea, Heredia el Viejo, Martín de Ircio, Pedro de Ircio, Hernando de Lezama, Martín Ruíz de Monjaraz, Gregorio de Monjaraz, Juan de Montano, Juan de Lizana, Rodrigo Guipúzcoano, Martín Ramos, Juan Espinosa, Pedro de Orduña, Alonso de Motrico, Diego de Olarte Gonzalo de Ochoa, Diego de Sopuerta, Andrés del Arnés de Sopuerta, Juan de San Sebastián, Pedro de Urbietta, Juan Ruiz de Viana, Alonso de Zuazo, Juan de Guetaria, Romos Martín, Juan de Aguirre, Hernando de Argueta, Miguel Arriaga, Domingo de Arteaga, Juan de Azpeitia, Juan Díaz de Azpeitia, Francisco de Berrio, Hernando de Elgueta, Gaspar de Guernica, Diego de Guinea, Juan de Guevara, Juan Bono de Guecho, Juan de Vizcaíno, Guillén de Laloa, Hernando de Lezama, Juan de Lezcano, Diego de Mortrico, Francisco Martín, Juan de Ochoa de Lexalde, Diego de Ordaz, Diego de Orduña, Francisco de Orduña, Francisco de Orozco, Ochoa de Verazu, Alonso de Orduña, Juan de Orozco Melgar, Diego de Olarte, Ochoa de Asúa, Juan de Ochoa, Martín de San Juan, Juan de Susmiaga, Antonio de Sánchez, Santiago Vizcaíno, Anton de Torraeta, Gonzalo de Urriola, Juan de Ugarte de la Cruz, Pedro Vizcaíno, Alonso de Vergara, Juan de Vergara, Pedro de Vergara, Martín de Vergara, Miguel de Veraza, Juan de Zamudio (with Cortéz), Juan de Zamudio (with Narváez) and Juan de Zubia. (Source: *Possible Paradises*, by Pastor)

The previous list does not include the sailors under the command of Cortéz. These include: **Martín López, Juan de Bilbao, Juan Martínez de Aroa, Juanes de Zuaxo, Juanes de Marquina, Miguel de Urbietta, Juan de Balzolo, Pedro de Ochoa, Juan de Escarza, Juanes de Arrieta, Martín de Aspiruntza, Domingo de Elejalde, Martín Pérez de Lezcano and Ortuño Jimenez.** (Source: *Possible Paradises*, by Pastor)

1520- After the conquest of Mexico, **Pánfilo de Narváez** is sent by the governor of Cuba, Diego de Velázquez, in an effort to overthrow Velázquez's rival, Hernán Cortéz. Narváez is defeated. He loses an eye in battle and is imprisoned for two years before he returns to Spain. A member of Narváez's army introduces smallpox into Mexico.

Language is a unifying factor for the Basques, especially in New Spain. According to **Joxe Mallea-Olaetxe**: "In 1521, when Hernán Cortés tried to explain to Moctezuma the nature of the party of Spaniards under **Pánfilo de Narváez**, he told him they were **Vizcaínos** (Castile had many Biscayan immigrants, so all Basques were called **Viscaínos**) and added, 'They speak like the Otomíes.' Language was the first thing that came to Cortés' mind about the Basques, and he communicated its barbarities to Moctezuma by equating it to that of the Otomí, a savage people whom the Aztecs held in contempt.") Emphasis added.

1520- Cortéz names **Pedro de Ircio**, from Enkarterri, the mayor of Tepeaca, Mexico.

1520 to 1580- Fully 80% of the ships making voyages between Europe and the Americas are either Basque-manned and/or owned by Basque commercial interests. Between 1580 and 1610, 50% of the ships and commerce is Basque controlled. In these formative

stages of New World trade, Basques dominate Colonial shipping enterprises for nearly 100 years. Historian David Goodman states, “**Basque seamen were widely held to be the best in Spain.**”

In this age of exploration and colonization, the coast of the Basque Country held Spain’s principal shipbuilding sites and recruitment areas for sailors. In Bizkaia there were the villages of Zorroza, Deusto, Portugalete, Bermeo and Lekeitio. In Gipuzkoa there was Lezo, Pasajes, Usúrbil, Deva, Orio and Rentería. Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa also produced valuable oak trees used in ship construction. In addition, Nafarroa produced iron cannon balls, gunpowder and matches and hemp for naval ropes. Most of the ships built in Spain’s Golden Era were Basque built. As an example, of the 47 ships built in Spain between 1615 and 1682, all were built in Basque shipyards and Basque master shipbuilders built all but 4 of the ships. (Ships from St-Jean-de-Luz were used as well but were registered with authorities as from Bizkaia.) A great number of the administrators, officers and crewmen of these ships (too many to list here) were also Basques and, in many instances, followed in a line of three or more generations of builders or mariners.

The Magellan Attempt to Sail Around the World

1518- Ferdinand Magellan, from Portugal, appeals to Charles V of Spain to open a new route to the Spice Islands following the coast of South America. The Emperor agrees, probably influenced by the advice of Magellan’s companions on his Royal visit, **Sancho de Matienzo**, the treasurer of the House of Trade, and **Domingo de Ochandiano**, the contractor of the expedition, both Bizkaians.

1521- Basques play an important part in the Magellan expedition. The preparation for the monumental voyage is handled by Basque **Nicolás de Artieta**. Five ships began the trip and Basques are the masters of three of them. The five ships are the flagship *Trinidad*, bought in Bilbao, the *San Antonio*, *Concepción*, *Santiago* and *Victoria*, which is built in Zarautz. Thirty-six Basques are among the crew of 265 men. The Basque members of the expedition are: **Domingo de Urrutia**, from Lekeitio, Master of the *Trinidad*; **Juan Sebastián Elcano**, from Guetaria, Master of the *Concepción*; **Juan de Elorriaga**, from Deba, Master of the *San Antonio*; **Sebastián de Olarte**, Bilbao; **Pedro de Olarte**, Portugalete; **Lope de Ugarte**, Segura; **Juan de Segura**, Segura; **Lorenzo de Iruña**, Sorabilla; **Juan de Aguirre**, Bermeo; **Juan de Acurio**, Bermeo; **Martín de Aguirre**, Irun; **Juan de Irún Uranzu**, Irun; **Pedro Mugartegui**, Bermeo; **Juanico el Vizcaíno**, Bizkaia; **Martín de Inchaurreaga**, Bermeo; **Juan de Arratia**, Bilbao; **Pedro de Tolosa**, Tolosa; **Juan de Orue**, Mungia; **Pedro de Basozabal**, Mungia; **Juan Navarro**, Pamplona; **Ochoa de Erandio**, Erandio; **Pedro de Bilbao**, Bilbao; **Martín de Goytisolo**, Bakio; **Antonio de Basozabal**, Bermeo; **Domingo de Icaza**, Deba; **Pedro Sautua**, Bermeo; **Martín Garate**, Deba; **Juan de Menchaca**, Bilbao; **Pedro de Chindurza**, Bermeo; **Juan de Zubileta**, Barakaldo; **Juan Ortíz de Gopegui**, Bilbao; **León de Ezpeleta**, Bilbao; **Diego de Peralta**, Peralta; **Pedro de Olabarrieta**, Galdakao; **Martín de Barrena**, Orio and **Lope Navarro**, Tudela.

Only 3 ships reach the Philippines after rugged sailing around the southern tip of South America. After attempts to impart Christianity onto the natives, the Europeans are attacked and Magellan is killed. The explorers burn the *Concepción* due to losses of crewmembers and Basque **Juan Sebastián Elcano** (or **del Cano**) assumes command of the *Victoria* and the expedition. He is also named treasurer of the remaining group.

On September 6, 1522, almost 3 years after it had set off, the *Victoria* returns to Sanlúcar de Barrameda barely afloat. It traveled almost 42,000 miles and only 18 of the original crew of 265 men successfully completed the first circumnavigation of the earth. In addition to **Elcano**, 3 other Basques live through the adventure: **Juan de Acurio**, **Juan de Arratia** and **Juan de Zubileta**. Naval historian David Goodman calls Elcano's voyage, "The most outstanding feat in the history of navigation..."

1522- **Francisco de Orozco** settles the Oaxaca area of Mexico. Orozco had been an artillery captain under **Pánfilo de Narváez**.

1524- Bizkaian **Juan de Orduña** is secretary of the council of Mexico City.

1525- **García Jofre de Loaísa** (**Loaysa**) leads an expedition to the Spice Islands (now the Maluku Islands) trying to establish a better route to the Philippines. Also on the voyage is **Juan Sebastián Elcano** who had been first to circumnavigate the earth. Seven ships are involved with **Loaísa**, **Elcano** and **Santiago de Guevara** commanding three of them. The expedition meets with disaster. **Loaísa** dies one year into the trek. **Elcano** takes command of the expedition but dies of malnutrition and scurvy somewhere in the Pacific just one week later. **Alonso de Salazar**, another Basque, takes command. He dies before reaching the Philippines at which time another Basque, **Martín Iñiquez de Carquizano**, takes over command. He is poisoned and dies in Tidore. Natives capture the rest of the crews. Only a handful survives. One of those survivors is **Andrés de Urdaneta**. He escapes after seven years in captivity and sails throughout the Spice Islands for a number of years, in spite of the efforts of the Portuguese to apprehend him. He even learns the Malay language. He then sails back to Spain, becoming the second person to sail around the world, albeit not in one continuous voyage. In 1552 Urdaneta becomes a monk and studies mathematics, astronomy, Latin, military history and philosophy. However, his sailing days are not finished.

1526- Large and prosperous trading companies are established between the Indies and Seville. Many are Basque owned and run. As an example, one of these trading houses includes Indies' representative **Martín de Zubizarreta**, while **Juan Sáez de Aramburu**, **Francisco de Churruca** and **Martín Pérez de Achotegui** run the office in Spain. All four are from Azcoitia, Bizkaia. Another associate is **Juanés de Astigarraga**.

1527- **Pánfilo de Narváez** is appointed governor of Florida by Charles V and sets sail with 700 men for his new land. After wintering in Cuba but weakened by storms and desertions he lands among hostile Indians on the coast of Florida in 1528 near Tampa Bay with 300 men and 80 horses. Disappointed by the lack of gold and continually harassed by Indians, beset with hunger, illness and critical tactical mistakes, he has his men build several crude canoes. They head up the coast of Florida and across the coasts

of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas. In November of 1528 the overloaded boats wash up on Galveston Island. During a storm, **Narváez** stays in one of the boats and is washed out to sea, never to be seen again.

1527- **Juan de Zumárraga** is named first bishop of *Nueva España*, New Spain. (According to Basque historian **Pastor**, Basques were involved in every ecclesiastical sector or activity in the New World.) In Mexico Zumárraga surrounds himself with Basque relatives and compatriots and he recruits colonists from his native Durango, Bizkaia, to come to Mexico. Among these are: **Antso Gartzzi Larrazabal**, **Juan Lopez Zumárraga**, **Andres Mucharaz**, **Martin Mucharaz**, **Martín Zabala**, **Juan Mendiola** and his entire family, **Patxi Urquiaga**, **Andres Zuricaray**, **Juana Zumarraga**, **Juan de Tolosa**, **Diego de Ibarra**, **Miguel Ibarra**, and **Juan Urrutia** (both of whom are slave traders) **Antso Lopez Agurto** and **Miguel Lopez Legazpi y Gorrocatagui**, the man who later conquers the Philippines without bloodshed.

Bishop **Zumárraga** is one of the most powerful and influential Spanish officials in the New World. In the 16th Century in Mexico, most Basques speak only Basque. For this reason they tend to group together. As an example, Zumárraga is the author of one of the oldest documents written in *Euskara*, the Basque language. In 1537 he sends a long letter to a distant relative in Durango, smuggled via a Basque ship captain named **Urrutia**. Written primarily in Castilian, about 400 words are in *Euskara* where he explains that secretly, and on his and his Basque collaborators' behalf, some Basque shipmasters will be smuggling money into Durango. (According to professor **Joxe Mallea-Olaetxe**, these collaborators are **Matxin Ibañez Hernani** and **Antso Gartzzi Larrazabal**.) Zumárraga does not want any Castilian official to know of these matters in case the letter falls into their hands. (A translation of the letter begins on page 81.) Zumárraga relies on several Basque shipmasters to smuggle the silver and gifts. Among them are **Gonzalo Ugarte**, **Antso Pinaga** and **Joanes Ypazteco**.

Among Zumárraga's accomplishments are the introduction of the first printing press into the New World and the establishment of schools and hospitals. He founds the *Colegio de Santa Cruz de Tlateloco*. Historian Mallea-Olaetxe also reports that Zumárraga might also have been the first Basque sheepman in North America. Most importantly, however, he believes that the Indians are actual human beings. This is an opinion not shared by everyone, including some of his closest religious friends. Zumárraga lays the foundations for the Christian Church in Mexico and is a major force in the implantation of Western culture in Mexico.

Zumárraga is appointed the first Archbishop of Mexico and notification of this appointment is sent out on July 8, 1548. However, unknown to Church officials, Bishop Zumárraga had died one month earlier.

While the position and power of the Catholic Church in Mexico is still exceptional, it was extraordinary strong in its first 300 years in the New World. The Mexican church becomes enormously wealthy through gifts and bequests that it can hold indefinitely. In these 300 years, the church comes to own one-third of all property and land in *Nueva España*. This lasts until 1859, when its holdings are nationalized.

1525-1527- By this early date several Basque merchants have prominently established themselves in *Nueva España*. Among these are **Miguel Ibarra** and **Antso Agurto** (mentioned previously) **Gabriel de Valmaseda**, **Martín Aburruza**, **Martín Ipinza** and **Sebastian Aquearza**.

1527- Spaniard Hernán Cortéz, commanding Basque owned and manned vessels, discovers Baja California. Again, a sizable number of the troops under Cortéz are Basque mercenaries who served in Spain's Italian campaigns and later in the conquest of the Antilles in the Caribbean.

1527- **Pedro de Carranza** is alderman of Mexico City.

It is in this decade (1520's) that the Basques and other soldiers of fortune begin to brave Indians and the elements as they expand their search for land and riches into the wilder, northern area of Mexico. William A. Douglass, one of the premier Basque scholars, states in an article in the journal *Names*: "On the eve of the discovery of the Americas, the Basques were Spain's mariners and mercenaries *par excellence*. As such they were from the outset heavily involved in Spain's New World colonial venture. Temporally, throughout the colonial era and, geographically, in all of the colonies, Basques played prominent roles as merchants, soldiers, administrators, and ecclesiastics. However, nowhere was this more the case than in the northern reaches of Nueva España during the sixteenth century."

These northern reaches include the Sonoran area of Mexico and what will become Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California. The Basque prominence continues through the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries as well.

Historian P.J. Bakewell is in agreement saying that the history of the exploration and settlement of northern New Spain is dominated by Basques in the 1500's and 1600's. This would include Basques **Francisco de Ibarra** and **Francisco Urdiñola** in Nueva Viscaya, **Juan de Oñate** in New Mexico and **Martín de Zavala** in Nuevo Leon. (Martín de Zavala is the son of wealthy Zacatecas miner General **Agustín de Zavala**.)

1524- **Cristóbal de Oñate y Narria** arrives in Mexico City from Narria, a small village outside of Oñati, Gipuzkoa. By 1528 he rises to the rank of *regidor*. His brother **Juan** joins him in the New World and they head out with Nuño Beltrán de Guzmán to conquer what is now the New Galicia area of Mexico. Later, Cristóbal acquires a fortune through silver mining and ownership of large *encomiendas* in Zacatecas while Juan suffers an entirely different fate in Peru.

1530-1542- It is more than probable that the **Oñates** came by some of their wealth ruthlessly and without regard to the rights of the native Indians who had their lands taken. The Oñate brothers are captains in the company of soldiers under the direction of one of the most bloodthirsty and evil *conquistadores* in New World history, Nuño Beltrán de Guzmán, known as "Bloody Guzmán." Among the other Basques in the expedition are **Juan de Tolosa**, **Juan de Villalba**, **Domingo de Arteaga**, **Jerónimo Pérez de Arciniega**, **Martín de Rentería**, **Miguel de Ibarra**, **Jerónimo de Orozco**, **Juan de Zubia**, **Juan de Urbina**, **Rodrigo Guipuzcoano** and **Vincente** and **Juan de Zaldívar**. In 1530 Guzmán sets off with his army of 500 soldiers and 10,000 Indians for the area that now includes the Mexican states of Jalisco, Nayarit, Aguascaliente, Durango, Sinaloa

and Zacatecas. Rather than trying to convert the Indians to Christianity, Guzmán is only interested in land and power. He enslaves or tortures and slaughters the Indians and savagely takes whatever land he wants, even if it had been previously granted to other Spaniards. He then establishes *encomiendas* (private land grants) for himself and his men, including the Oñates. He names this area Nueva Galicia for the province in Spain where he is from and he founds the first pueblo of Guadalajara, named for the city where he was born. The Indians repeatedly attack the pueblo and it is relocated three times.

1530- On April 15, **Crosthbal de Oñate** founds the village of Santiago de Tequila in Nueva Galicia.

1531- **Oñate** helps found San Miguel de Culiacán.

The Viceroy of New Spain, Antonio de Mendoza, begins hearing of Guzmán's atrocities involving the Indians and, urged on by Franciscan Father Bartolomé de las Casas and Bishop **Zumárraga**, he has Guzmán arrested in 1535. He returns him to Spain in 1536 where he dies in obscurity in 1544. (Guzmán's arrest came after he had threatened Zumárraga with imprisonment and the gallows. Guzman's agents also confiscated Zumárraga's letters to the king reporting his murderous activities. Zumárraga finally manages to get a letter out of Mexico to Spain and the king, smuggled in a block of wax via a Basque sailor, and Guzmán's crimes were exposed.)

Cristóbal de Oñate rejects the brutality of Guzmán early on. He chooses to deal with the Indians respectfully while trying to enforce the royal laws that protect them. He is a moderating influence in the otherwise brutal expansion of northern Mexico. His proven decency and honor make his association with Guzmán an interesting puzzle. This is in sharp contrast to his brother **Juan**. Juan brazenly takes part in the torture and slaughter of the Indians and, according to historian Marc Simmons, would occasionally feed their corpses to his dogs. **Juan de Oñate** is accused of numerous crimes during Guzmán's trial but by then, with Cristóbal's help, he escapes to Peru to avoid punishment. He dies there in exile, blind and penniless.

1532- **Pedro de Heredia** (who had already been governor of Santo Domingo and Nueva Andalucía, Columbia) settles Cartagena in the area **Juan de la Cosa** had been killed years earlier. With his brother **Alonso**, he will found Maritue, Tolú, and Mompós, Columbia.

Other Basques also found Columbian cities. Among them are **Diego de Ospina** founding Neiva; **Pedro de Ursúa y Armendariz** founding Pamplona and Tudela de Muzo; **Juan de Lemus y Aguirre** founding Tuluá; **Andrés López de Galazar** founding Ibagüé; **Alonso de Olaya** founding Villeta; **Francisco Martínez de Ospina** founding Remedios de Antioquia; **Juan de Ojalora** founding Villa de Leiva; and **Alvaro de Guzmán** founding Buga.

1533- **Gaspar de Marquina**, in a letter to his father **Martín de Gárate** in Mendaro, Bizkaia, explains how he is obtaining wealth and success with Francisco Pizarro in the conquest of the Incas in Peru. He relates how he is sending gold home for his father and

other relatives. He also gives a description of the Inca ruler Atahualpa and how Pizarro and just 160 Spaniards "...all armed with lances 15 feet long, and we routed them all. In the rout we killed 8,000 men in about two hours and a half, and we took much gold and clothing and many people." Later in the same year, Incas kill Marquina. He is 21. Historians James Lockhart and Enrique Otte, commenting on **Marquina's** letter say that, "The use of a different surname in the Indies...was a quite common phenomenon, **particularly with the Basques, who were happy enough to let themselves be called anything the other Spaniards could pronounce.**" (Emphasis added.)

1534- The first explorations of what is now Chile begin. Among the first Europeans in the area are Basques **Martín de Cote, Francisco Galdemes, Francisco de Isásaga, Domingo de la Orta, and Juan de Larrañaga**, all from Bilbao; **Ortún Jiménez de Bertendona**, also from Bizkaia, and **Pedro de Zárate** and **Gaspar de Bergara** from Gipuzkoa.

1536- Bishop **Zumárraga's** closest inner-circle of advisors consists of nephews **Juanes Ochoa Egurbide** and **Antso Larrazabal** plus another Basque, **Martín Ynoso**.

1537- Francisco de Ulloa discovers the southern tip of Baja California. In 1602 **Sebastián Vizcaíno** names the area Cabo San Lucas. (Presently, located in a wide band from the Pacific to the Sea of Cortez, across the center of the Baja Peninsula, is the **El Vizcaíno Biosphere Reserve**. Within the Reserve is the *Desierto de Vizcaíno* and on the Pacific side is the *Bahía Sebastián Vizcaíno*.) One of the priests accompanying Ulloa is Basque **Pedro de Ariche**.

1537- **Juan de Salazar** founds Fort Asunción in the area to become Paraguay.

1538- **Adame de Olaberriaga** is Fort Asunción's Royal Treasurer and, in 1541, **Domingo Martínez de Irala** would formally name Asunción a city and it becomes the capital of Paraguay.

1539- **Irala** becomes the founder and first governor of Paraguay. Irala is the first governor in the Americas elected by a free vote of the colonists. He is also a proponent of polygamy. He sets an example by having seven wives himself; all the daughters of a prominent Indian chief.

1539- **Juan de Arteaga y Avendaño** is appointed Bishop of Chiapas (Mexico.) Later, Guipuzkoan **Andrés de Ubilla** holds the same position.

1539- **Lope de Aguirre**, born in Oñate, Guipuzkoa in 1518, leaves for South America as a soldier of fortune. He joins the 1560 expedition of another Basque, **Pedro de Ursúa y Armendariz**, to try and locate the legendary city of El Dorado at the headwaters of the Amazon. He leads a mutiny and kills Ursúa and many others in the party. (Ursúa had arrived in New Granada, South America, in 1545 and was governor of Santa Fe and Bogotá.) Aguirre has such a history of larceny and treason his nickname is "The Traitor." (At one time he was sentenced to a public lashing for mistreating Indians. The judge,

fearing for his life because of Aguirre's reputation, tried to relocate and hide from him. To no avail. After 3 years and 1,800 miles, Aguirre tracked him down and slit his throat.) Finally, after murdering his own daughter and several priests to try and save himself, Aguirre is captured by the Spanish in Peru and executed.

1540- **Pascual de Andagoya**, mentioned earlier, founds the port of Buenaventura, Columbia.

1540- Viceroy Antonio de Mendoza sends **Juan de Saldívar** to find a land route from Mexico to Florida. He is on a strict timetable and travels "many leagues" finding only desolation and poor Indians before he must return without success.

1541- Francisco Pizarro, the Spanish conquistador who, in 1532 had crushed the Inca in Peru, is facing strong political opposition. On June 26 rivals rush his palace in Lima, attack and kill him. Among those in the assassination party are Basques **Juan de Rada**, **Martín de Bilbao**, **Juan Sojo**, **Sebastián de Arbolancha**, **Bartolomé de Enciso** and **Pedro Navarro**.

1541- In Nueva Galicia, even though Bloody Guzmán is gone, because of him the Indians' hatred of the Spanish remains. They unite and attack Guadalajara, again trying to drive off the Spaniards. **Cristóbal de Oñate** has to call upon Viceroy Mendoza for help and the Indians are eventually defeated. As a result, however, New Galicia reverts to the control of the Colonial Government of New Spain. In 1542 Guadalajara is moved one last time and re-founded under the direction of **Oñate** and **Miguel de Ibarra** and **Miguel's** nephew, **Diego de Ibarra**. It becomes the capital of Jalisco and the second largest city in Mexico. Oñate is also one of the founders of Culicán.

1541- **Lope de Urrea**, a trusted officer under Coronado, accompanies him in his search for the Seven Cities of Gold throughout what will become Arizona, New Mexico and Kansas. Among the other Basques with Coronado are **Melchor Díaz** and junior officer **Juan de Zaldívar**, from Vitoria. Zaldívar is the nephew of **Cristóbal de Oñate**, the son of Cristóbal's sister **María**.

1542- Frey **Luís de Urbeda**, an early companion of Bishop **Zumárraga**, stays in Tierra Nueva when Coronado returns to Mexico.

1542- Only fifty years after Columbus established *La Navidad* on the island of Hispaniola, Bartolomé de las Casas, a Spanish priest, historian, advocate of Indian rights and a contemporary of Bishop **Zumárraga**, reports that, because of his countrymen's "killing, terrorizing, afflicting, and destroying" the natives of Hispaniola, barely two hundred natives remain on the island from an initial population of perhaps two million. The same is true throughout the Caribbean.

1544-The first book published in the New World is written by Bishop **Zumárraga**. Titled *Doctrina Breve*, it instructs the Aztecs, in their own language, about Catholicism.

1545- **Claudio de Arciniega** arrives in Mexico at the age of 18. He becomes a master artisan, craftsman and builder. He designs, consults on and helps erect the cathedrals of Puebla and Mexico City, both of which still stand as amazing structures today.

1546- **Cristóbal de Oñate** forms a company with three other Basques he had served with under Guzmán. They are **Juan de Tolosa** and **Miguel** and **Diego de Ibarra**, all from Gipuzkoa and all three relatives of Bishop **Zumárraga**. Tolosa (nicknamed “Barbalonga” or “long beard”) is sent prospecting and discovers silver at a location called *La Bufa*. *La Bufa* turns out to be a “mountain of silver.” They add another partner, Baltasar Temiño de Bañuelos, and become the benefactors in mining one of the largest silver discoveries ever made in North America. It provides one-fifth of the world’s silver through the eighteenth century. They co-found the city of Zacatecas. (**Oñate** and the **Ibarras** had also founded Guadalajara.) Diego is the first mayor of Zacatecas.

Historian P.J. Bakewell says, “There was a tendency among emigrant Basques, above all other Spaniards in America, to congregate with others of the same tongue and regional origin. But Zacatecas was not a city numerically dominated by Basques at any time...

Basque families were influential but few. Above all, Basques were great explorers; and Zacatecas the source of finance for their expeditions and the base from which they set out.”

This rich silver discovery at Zacatecas forces Spain to commit to bring the wild northern areas of Mexico within the *Nueva España* Empire. The north is twice as large as the “civilized,” settled area of central Mexico.

Obviously, silver is the basis of the extreme wealth of the **Oñates**, **Tolosas** and **Ibarras**. The three families are excellent examples of a privileged group called *hacendados*. At the top of society in this new frontier, they engage in conquest, governing, mining, agriculture and livestock raising for several generations.

1546- **Martín Aranguren**, a wealthy businessman and a close and trusted friend of Bishop **Zumárraga**, becomes administrator for Zumárraga’s *Hospital de Bubas*, the first hospital in the New World. Aranguren is also the sole heir to Zumárraga’s estate.

1547- Because of Indian problems, Zacatecas is temporarily abandoned. **Diego de Ibarra** and **Tomás de Arayaize** return to the deserted town and build substantial houses, strong enough to withstand Indian attacks.

1548- **Pedro Ocharte** arrives in Mexico. In 1563 he takes over the printing business of Juan Pablos, who had been brought to Mexico by **Zumárraga**.

1548- **Alonso de Mendoza** founds the city of La Paz, the present capital of Bolivia, and incorporates all of its territory into the viceroyalty of Peru.

1548- **Miguel de Urrutia** introduces domestic sheep into the Argentine Pampas. Instead of the small, family flocks found in the Pyrenees, the Basques must adapt and develop an

extensive range sheep business in South America. It becomes the model for what is now in use in the Western US.

(Three hundred years later in the 1850's, the largest Basque influx into the gold fields of California comes from Argentina. These gold-seekers find raising sheep to feed to the miners more profitable than mining. Therefore, when these Argentine Basques begin tending sheep in California they have with them the techniques and practices of open-range herding that they have learned over the centuries on the Pampas in South America.

1549- At the age of 10, **Francisco de Ibarra** comes to the New World to join his uncle **Diego de Ibarra**.

1550- **Ochoa de las Rivas** is one of the most prominent Basque merchants in Mexico. He has business connections with Basque partners in Bizkaia, Seville, Guatemala and throughout Mexico. In addition, he has arrangements with non-Basque partners in Italy and Valencia. He deals in merchandise ranging from armament to slaves.

1550- Fray **Gerónimo de Mendieta** is a Franciscan historian in Mexico in the middle 1500's.

1550- **Diego de Ibarra** is given the task of continuing the expansion of *Nueva España* to the north. However, he turns the job over to his young nephew, **Francisco**.

1554- **Francisco de Ibarra** leads his first expedition at the age of 16. At age 17 he leads the first authorized expedition north and west of Zacatecas. Between 1554 and 1574, he and **Juan de Tolosa** conquer the area of northern Mexico and they name it *Nueva Viscaya*. The area is now comprised of the present states of Durango, Chihuahua, Coahuila, Sinaloa, Sonora, and some parts of Zacatecas, San Luis de Potosí and León. In the 1560's Ibarra carries out extensive exploration, conquest and settlement of the unknown lands north of San Martín and names the area **Nueva Viscaya** after his homeland in the Basque Country.

1555- **Bartolomé de Oyarzun** arrives at the mines in northern Mexico. He is a miner and trader and also heavily involved in the transportation of metals and merchandise in the Zacatecas, Mazapil, Sombrerete, Fresnillo and Guadalajara areas.

1557- Fifty-five years after original Spanish contact on Cuba, only two thousand Taino Indians remain from an original population of approximately two million.

1557- In August, **Juan de Tolosa** and his brother-in-law Luís Cortés discover silver and lead at San Martín and Sombrerete, one hundred miles northwest of Zacatecas. These new deposits will out-produce Zacatecas in the late 1600's.

1558- **Francisco de Ibarra** establishes the royal mining town of San Martín. Among its first settlers are **Martín Pérez de Urantzú**, **Martín de Urrutia**, **Martín de Rentería**, **Martín de Oñez** and **Martín de Larraga**.

1558- Several Bizkaians are working the mines in Jocotlán, Mexico. Among them are **Martín de Gamón, Juan de la Vera, Francisco Hernández Escobar**, and the brothers **Arguetas**. Gamón is exiled from Jocotlán and flees to Zacatecas. There, protected by the powerful **Francisco de Ibarra** and other Bizkains, no outsider dares to confront him or speak to him regarding the reasons he leaves Jocotlán.

1559- In August, Fray **Andrés de Urdaneta**, the second man to sail around the world and now a priest, lands at Pensacola Bay as he accompanies Tristán de Luna y Arellano and his 11 ships on an expedition to establish a permanent settlement and explore what is now Florida. On September 19, 1559 a hurricane sinks as many as 7 of the ships in Pensacola Bay. Two years later, the colony at the present site of Pensacola is abandoned. The sinking of the ships is the major factor in the abandonment.

1560- Architect **Juan de Veramendi**, from Bizkaia, sees the completion of his Cathedral of Cuzco in South America.

1561- **Alonso de Zorita** is judge of the Mexico City audiencia.

1562- **Francisco de Ibarra** founds the cities of Nombre de Dios and **Durango**. Durango is named after his birthplace in Bizkaia. Later, **Bartolomé de Arriola** is treasurer of the royal treasury of the city.

1562- **Ibarra** names renegade **Martín de Gamón** field marshal of his army as he prepares to explore northward.

1564- **Ibarra** explores the upper tributaries of the Rio Conchos in southern Chihuahua. The next year he is appointed governor and captain general of the province of Nueva Viscaya and holds those positions until he dies of tuberculosis in 1575 at age 36. Through the combined efforts of **Ibarra, Tolosa** and Luis de Carvajal they carve out the provinces of Nueva Vizcaya and Nuevo León by the late 1500's. Historian Eugenio del Hoyo credits **Francisco de Ibarra** as being the most important person in the colonization of northeastern New Spain.

1564- **Juan Ortíz de Zárate** is named governor of Paraguay.

1564- Fray **Andrés de Urdaneta** and **Miguel Lopez de Legazpi y Gorrocatagui** open the sea route between *Nueva España* and the Orient. In 1564 a new expedition to explore the Philippines and to look for an eastern passage is organized in Mexico by Urdaneta and Legazpi. Legazpi uses his personal fortune to finance the expedition.

In the 1500's, Spain is still hoping to make the Philippines a stopping place in route to China and her lucrative trade. The Portuguese have closed the Cape of Good Hope to all countries but themselves and so Spain must find an eastward passage across the Pacific. Going west from Acapulco to the East Indies offers no difficulty. Any navigator can steer into the belt of the northeast trade winds and stay there. The return east is an entirely different matter. It requires "tacking" back and forth in the teeth of the trade

winds taking so much time no ship of the day can carry enough provisions to survive the trip. After Magellan discovers the westward passage to Asia, several attempts follow to break into the Portuguese monopoly. However, the only man in Spain who knows anything about these waters is **Andrés de Urdaneta**. He consents to go along as an observer and advisor and a navigator to find the way back to Mexico only if **Legazpi** leads the expedition. (Urdaneta is also the godfather of Legazpi's daughter, **Ysabel**.)

The fleet is basically a Basque enterprise with Basque leadership, manpower and capital. **Mateo de Saz** is captain of one of the ships and second in command. **Martín de Ibarra** is master of another of the ships with **Francisco de Astigarribia**, boatswain, **Esteban Rodríguez**, first mate and **Pierre Plin** second mate. Other Basques include **Juan** and **Rodrigo de la Isla**, **Andrés de Ibarra**, **Martín de Goiti**, **Luís de la Haya**, **Andrés de Mirandola**, **Felipe de Salcedo**, **Guido de Lavezares**, **Andrés de Carchela**, **Martín de Rada** and **Pedro de Gamboa**. Two Basque priests are also along, **Andrés de Aguirre** and **Diego de Herrera**.

The fleet sails from Acapulco in November 1564, under the command of **Legazpi**. After reaching Manila and leaving everyone else in the Philippines, one ship, with **Urdaneta** aboard, sets out to sail back to Mexico and to find the eastward passage. Shortly thereafter, the pilot and sailing master die and **Fray Andres** has to take the helm. Scurvy leaves the vessel virtually without enough hands to sail it but Urdaneta takes the ship north 2,000 miles and then east to California and then south to Acapulco, arriving there on October 3, 1565. He completes the first voyage on the Great Circle Route across the Pacific, 10,000 miles, in four months and two days. Fourteen of the crew die of scurvy and, at Acapulco, no one even has the strength to drop anchor. In fact, the only two men able to stand at all are Captain **Felipe de Salcedo**, nephew of **Legazpi**, and Fray **Andrés de Urdaneta**. Urdaneta dies of ill health in 1568 at the age of 70.

1564- **Miguel Lopez de Legazpi y Gorrocatagui** sees the Philippines as another source of wealth. He takes Luzon and establishes Manila as the capital of the new colony. **Juan de Salcedo**, his grandson, and **Martín de Goiti** are among the Basques who accompany him. It is during Legazpi's governorship that Manila's economic potentials are expanded into what will become known as the Galleon Trade. These trading ships make the trip from Manila to Acapulco each year until 1815. After Legazpi's death, Basque, **Guido de Lavezares** leads the government.

1569-1580- **Martín López de Ibarra** is involved as treasurer and deputy governor of Nueva Vizcaya.

1570- **Sebastian de Lartaún** is appointed Bishop of Cuzco. He doesn't arrive in Peru until 1573. Lartaún appoints merchant **Esteban de Zuaznabar Lasarte** as treasurer of the Cathedral of Cuzco.

1570- **Vincente de Zaldivar** is appointed to his first of three terms as Teniente de Capitán General of Nueva Galicia.

1575- Two years after coming to the New World **Francisco de Urdiñola**, along with **Cristóbal de Sagastiberri**, founds the city of Saltillo, Mexico. Urdiñola also founds

Concepción del Oro, Parras and Patos in Coahuila. Among the first settlers of Saltillo are Basques **Francisco de Isasti, Martín de Charrieta, Agustín de Lesaca, Juan and Martín de Elizalde, Pedro de Murga, and Martín and Pedro de Salazar.**

1578- **Juan de Garay** is appointed governor of Assuncion in South America. Among his many accomplishments, in 1580 he re-founds Buenos Aires, Argentina, on its old ruins and brings stability and security back to the area unknown since the days of **Martínez de Irala.**

1579-**Martín de Hoyarcabal** publishes one of the first navigational pilot books for Newfoundland. Born in Ciboure, Hoyarcabal titles the book “*Voyages Avantureux*” and it is widely used by Basque, French and Spanish mariners for centuries. In 1677 **Pierre D’Etcheverry** translates it into Labourdian Basque.

1581- **Nicolás de Guevara** arrives in Potosí, Peru from Durango, Bizkaia. He becomes a wealthy mining entrepreneur with several profitable mines and mills. He also becomes municipal council secretary of the city.

According to historians Lockhart and Otte, “The Basques, with their iron deposits, were the miners of Spain, and were correspondingly prominent in the silver mines of the Indies, in both Mexico and Peru...”

1586-1595- No fewer than 100 ships, mostly Basque built, are destroyed in Atlantic storms or from failing to clear the sand bars at Sanlúcar or Veracruz. Commander of the New Spain fleets at this time is **Aparicio de Arteaga y Zamudio** and he initiates improvements to remedy this situation. His father is Admiral **Aparicio de Arteaga** of the Indies escort fleet.

1590- **Simón Bolívar** “the elder” (the fifth paternal grandfather of **Simón Bolívar**, considered the architect of American independence) establishes a boarding school of Spanish grammar in Caracas that will be directed by **Juan de Arteaga** and **Simón de Basauri**. All three are native Bizkaians. The elder Bolívar is also the attorney general and alderman-for-life of Caracas. However, he is also a slave trader. Other Basque slave traders in the area are **Juan de Urquiza**, master of the island of Margarita, and **Esteban de Irizar**, both of whom are sentenced in 1589 for their collaboration with Dutch slave traffickers.

1592- By this time, Basques have been in the New World for over one hundred years.

1592-Three Basques play important roles in the development of Nuevo Reino de Leon, Mexico. **Pedro de Arizmendi Gogorrón** and his friend, **Juan de Zavala**, find huge silver deposits at what is now San Luis Potosí in northern Mexico. They establish the mining town of San Luis. Arizmendi develops mines, builds smelters, stamp mills and refining furnaces. He also owns huge *estancias* throughout the region. His peaceful dealing with the hostile Indians revolutionizes relations between the warring tribes of the area and the Spanish. As a result, the economy of the region flourishes. Later, as the mines begin to diminish in their output of valuable minerals, Arizmendi uses his fortune

to finance large sheep and cattle ranches for his entire family as he transitions from mining to an agrarian life.

Juan de Zavala goes on to become even wealthier than Arizmendi and becomes one of the richest citizens and one of the largest philanthropists of San Luis Potosí.

The third Basque, Don **Agustín de Zavala**, no relation to Juan, is also one of the first discoverers of silver in San Luis Potosí and lives to overshadow both Arizmendi and Juan de Zavala in his wealth and generosity. He is born in Elorrio, Bizkaia to **Pedro Garcia de Azcarretazábal** and Doña **Maria de Zavala**. Pedro is from the valley of Leniz and María is the last daughter of Don **Martín de Zavala**, from the church district of San Agustín de Echavarría and **María de Leguerica** from Elorrio. (Juan's parents are **Juan de Tellaecche** and **María Díaz de Zavala**.)

In 1608, Agustín participates in the discovery of the rich mines of the Los Ramos area and he relocates to Zacatecas. In 1613 he is appointed governor of Nuevo Reino de Leon and begins to use his personal fortune to protect and improve the province. Among his many accomplishments are the reconstruction, at his cost, of the church and convent of San Agustín in Zacatecas. He is also a general in the Spanish army.

In 1625 Agustín is knighted into the Order of St. James and in 1646, the year Don Agustín dies in Zacatecas, he is captain general's lieutenant in the kingdom of la Nueva Galicia.

Don **Martín de Zavala**, **Agustín de Zavala's** illegitimate son, born in 1597 north of Zacatecas in the mining town of *Real de Pánuco*, spends thirty-eight years in the governing of Nuevo Reino de León. During that time he gives it autonomy, establishes new settlements, stabilizes the economy and shapes its customs and traditions. Chapters have been written in history books regarding his accomplishments.



Francisco de Urdiñola

1593- Drawn to the area by wild grapevines and a freshwater spring, **Francisco de Urdiñola Larrumbide**, mentioned previously as one of the founders of the city of Saltillo, builds a winery at Mission Santa María in Parras, in the Province of Coahuila, Mexico. It is the first commercial winery established in the New World. Parras becomes the center for wines and brandy throughout New Spain in the colonial period. Parras' wines hold a virtual monopoly until the end of the eighteen-century.

Urdiñola is an explorer, soldier, miner, agriculturalist, colonizer, governor and a prominent figure in the discovery and settlement of Nueva Vizcaya.

Born in Oiartzun, Gipuzkoa to **Juanes de Urdiñola** and **Isabel de Larrumbide Echenagucia y Urgarte**, Urdiñola comes to the New World in 1573. (Despite numerous rumors, myths and legends in Mexico, his father, Juanes, never leaves Spain to come to *Nueva España*.) Urdiñola is chosen by the Viceroy of New Spain to settle New Mexico. However, due to false charges of murdering his wife, brought about by a disappointed fellow applicant, Juan Bautista de Lomas y Colmenares, and the customary slowness at which the Spanish legal system works, Urdiñola spends the next six years proving his innocence thus losing New Mexico to **Juan de Oñate**.

However, Urdiñola goes on to accumulate what is considered to be the largest land holdings in the world. His *estancias* cover millions of acres including most of the state of Coahuila and areas of surrounding provinces. (One hacienda, Patos, covers half of Coahuila.) His household includes fellow Oiartzun immigrants **García Irigoyan**, **Pedro Larrea**, **León Isasti** and **Juan de Baracaldo**. In addition, he is governor of Nueva Vizcaya for ten years and his wealth makes it possible for a descendant's husband, the Marqués de Aguayo, to colonize Texas.

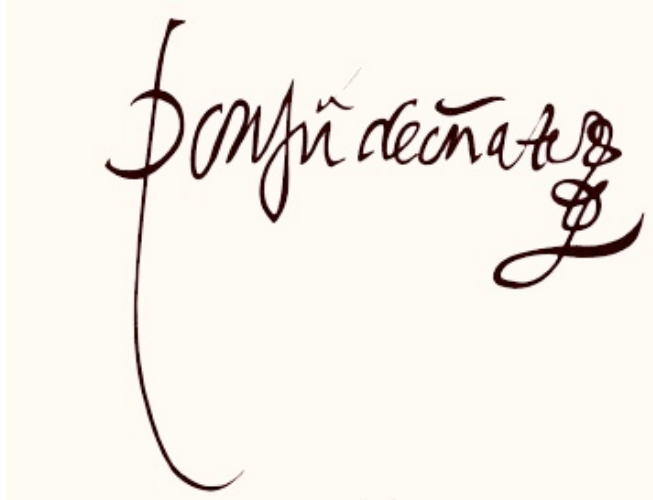
1595- **Juan de Tolosa y Cortéz Moctezuma**, son of **Juan de Tolosa**, mentioned before, becomes vicar of Zacatecas. His sister, **Isabel**, marries **Juan de Oñate y Salazar**.

1596- By this date, two Panama-based Basques, **Francisco & Miguel de Eraso** own 184 ships, almost monopolizing trade between Europe and the New World.

1596- Frey **Geronimo de Mendieta** writes *Historia Ecclesiastica Indiana*, the history of evangelization of New Spain. It is not published until 1870. Frey Mendieta dies in 1604.

1597- **Antonio de Urquiola**, from Guetaria, is appointed director of shipbuilding at Lezo. Lezo is destroyed by the French in 1638 and never rebuilt as a shipbuilding center.

Don **Juan de Oñate**, to be covered next, is the son of **Cristóbal de Oñate** and is married to **Isabel de Tolosa Cortéz Moctezuma**. She has one of the most amazing family lineages in the New World. She is great-granddaughter of Aztec monarch Moctezuma, granddaughter of Hernán Cortéz, the conqueror of Mexico, and the illegitimate daughter of Basque silver millionaire and land baron **Juan de Tolosa**.



Don Juan de Oñate

1598- **Juan de Oñate y Salazar** is sent by the King of Spain to find if there is a territory north of Mexico that will rival Mexico's wealth. In January of 1598 he leads a personally financed expedition to try and find "another Mexico." This area is known as New Mexico and is thought to extend all the way to Newfoundland.

As is the Basque custom, Oñate surrounds himself with Basque relatives and friends on the expedition. His four brothers; **Luís, Fernando, Cristóbal** and **Alonso** (Alonso will also become solicitor-general for the mine owners of New Spain) are made official agents and are to remain behind and use Oñate's power of attorney to send supplies, raise money and represent him at the viceregal court. Oñate's nephew, **Cristóbal de Zaldívar**, is also to stay behind to provision the trek. Cristóbal de Zaldívar's brothers are selected to accompany Oñate. **Juan de Zaldívar** is placed second in command with the rank of *maese de campo* or field marshal. Younger brother **Vincente de Zaldívar** is made *sargento mayor* or lieutenant marshal. Also along on the expedition, and listed as a sergeant with "complete armor for himself and horse" is Oñate y Salazar's nine year old son, **Cristóbal de Naharriondo Pérez Oñate y Cortéz Moctezuma**. Among the other Basques on the expedition are: **Asensio de Archuleta, Sebastián de Gaceta, Pedro Gimenez, Domingo de Lezama, Cristóbal de Lizaga, Leon de Ysasti, Juan Lopez de Yllareta, Jorge de Zumaya, Miguel, Juan and Francisco Olague, Hernando de la Rea, Martín Ruiz de Aguirre, Juan de Velasco y Zuñiga, Martín de Sorchaga, Juanes de Isasti** and **Marcos de Zamudio**.

The exploration party consists of five hundred men, one hundred thirty of which take their families along with them. They also bring over seven thousand head of livestock and eighty-three wagons and carts for food and provisions. On this trip Oñate brings the first domesticated sheep and chili peppers into what will become the United States.

They group heads straight across the northern desert of Mexico and withstand horrible shortages of food and water. Finally, they come upon the Rio Grande River and, on April 30, Oñate y Salazar officially takes possession of the entire area drained by the river for Philip II of Spain. Here, Oñate y Salazar gives present day El Paso, Texas, its name; *El Paso del Río del Norte*.

On this trip Oñate founds the kingdom of New Mexico, becomes its governor and helps found Santa Fe. He builds the first church in New Mexico in September of 1598 at the

pueblo of San Juan Bautista. (In that first church, Oñate's cousin, Fray **Cristóbal de Salazar** delivers the first sermon in New Mexico on September 8, 1598.)

1598-1599-**Vincente de Zaldívar** and seventy of **Oñate y Salazar's** soldiers retaliate against the Indians of the Acoma Pueblo (the longest continually lived-in village in the United States) in what is now New Mexico. According to one version, the Acomans had killed thirteen Spanish soldiers, including Oñate's nephew **Juan de Zaldívar**, when they lured the Spaniards onto their mesa top. Oñate sends Zaldívar's brother, **Vincente**, to quell the "uprising" and, as a punishment, Oñate supposedly orders the right foot (or toes) cut off of all surviving men of the Pueblo over the age of 25. (There is a great deal of speculation over whether these mutilations actually occurred or not.)

In 1998 when a bronze statue of Oñate was erected near Española, New Mexico, an unknown vandal cut off the statue's right foot. There is also an eighteen ton, thirty-six feet tall statue of Oñate in El Paso, Texas. It is the largest and heaviest equestrian statue in the world.

One reason **Oñate y Salazar's** statue was erected in New Mexico was to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the first Thanksgiving in the U.S. On April 20, 1598 Oñate led the members of his expedition in a Thanksgiving feast and celebration to give praise for finding the Rio Grande River after many days of extreme duress during which the group had survived weeks of food and water rationing and, finally, no water at all for five days. Also on this day, the first play performed in America was created and presented for this celebration. This predates the Pilgrims' Thanksgiving in New England by twenty-five years.

(**Cristóbal Oñate** brought his sister and her husband, **Ruiz Dias de Zaldívar**, from the Basque Country to Mexico. Two of their sons, **Cristóbal** and **Juan de Zaldívar** marry daughters of **Juan de Tolosa**, as did Cristóbal Oñate's son, **Juan de Oñate y Salazar**. **Juan de Zaldívar** served with Coronado on his expedition, mentioned earlier. The Zaldívar and Oñate families become so intricately related that Juan de Oñate y Salazar is both uncle and second cousin to the Zaldívar brothers, Juan and Vincente, and later becomes the father-in-law of Vincente when Vincente marries Oñate y Salazar's daughter. Vincente and Juan de Zaldívar had accompanied Oñate y Salazar into New Mexico and Juan was the brother killed by the Acoma Indians. In addition, making things even more confusing, Juan de Oñate y Salazar's father, great-grandfather, son, a brother, several cousins and several nephews are named **Cristóbal**.)

Don Juan de Oñate y Salazar and other explorers and colonizers for the king of Spain are, basically, kings of their own domains. These wealthy and powerful men of Spain's northern reaches colonize, preside over and sustain their individual empires at their own expense. Therefore, the king grants them almost total power and feudal independence--while sometimes trying to trick them out of their holdings.

As an example of how these men are respected and addressed, when Oñate is introduced it is as, "*Don Juan de Oñate, governor, captain general, and adelantado of the kingdoms and provinces of New Mexico and those adjacent and bordering, their pacifier and colonizer for the king our lord.*"

However, not all of these colonizers are qualified to handle such power and authority and they often are at odds with other men of influence who attempt to wrest away their property and status.

1598-One of **Oñate y Salazar's** soldiers is **Asensio Archuleta**, from Eibar in the Basque Country. He and his wife, Anna Pérez Bustillo, become one of the several original and genuine colonizing families of New Mexico.

1599- **Luis Eraso** signs a contract to supply Puebla's market with sixteen thousand sheep. Two of his employees are from his hometown of Oiartzun: **Juanes de Arbelaiz** and **Juan Ybañez**. Eraso has business contacts with other Basques in the area: **Juanes Eraso**, **Juanes Arizmendi** and **Martín Gaztelu**. He also does business with **Martín De Oyarzun**, Cholula's alguacil, **Pedro de Yrala**, alcalde of Puebla and Puebla merchant **Juan Martínez de Olea**. Eraso maintains contact with prominent Basques from his hometown now in Mexico City, as well. These include wealthy merchants **Thomas Zuaznabar y Aguirre** and **Juan de Arbide** and scribe in the viceroyalty, **Juan de Aguirre**.

A mention here of the semi-legendary **Catalina de Erauso**, also known as *La Monja Alférez* (The Lieutenant Nun.) Born in 1595 in San Sebastián, she comes to the New World and enlists as a soldier under the name of Alonso Díaz Ramírez. She gains a reputation as a courageous soldier, gambler and fighter and kills many men in duels. She also works in commerce, always for Basque businessmen. After killing a man she reveals her gender to escape hanging and returns to Spain. She once again returns to Mexico and works as a mule driver under the name of **Antonio de Erauso**. She dies in 1650.

1601- **Oñate y Salazar** explores into what will become Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas.

1602- **Martín de Aróztegui** is appointed *veedor general* of the Atlantic fleet. He is highly respected by his peers. It is said that he is "a model of integrity and efficiency" and he "knows the language and topics of discussion of seamen." This may mean he knows the jargon of the sailors, which is undoubtedly true. However, it probably alludes to the fact that most of the mariners are Basque like himself.

1602- Padres **Diego de Arcaya** and **Antonio de Zalduendo** are in Saltillo.

1602- **Sebastian Vizcaino** leads an exploration party from Acapulco, up the coast of what is now California with 3 ships, 200 men and 3 Carmelite Friars. He is searching for safe harbors for galleons returning to Mexico from the Philippines. On November 10 he reaches San Miguel Bay, discovered and named in 1542 by Juan Cabrillo. Because his flagship is named *San Diego* and because the feast day for saint *San Diego de Alcalá* is only two days off, Vizcaino renames the harbor San Diego. A tent church is erected and on November 12, 1602, he takes part in the first Mass held in California. He remains at the site for 8 more days refitting his ships and burying crewmembers that have died with scurvy.

As **Vizcaino** continues his expedition up the coastline of California, among the additional sites he names are San Clemente, Catalina, San Pedro, Santa Barbara, Point Conception, Monterey and Carmel.

Antonio de la Ascención, one of the priests with Vizcaíno, draws the first map of the Santa Barbara channel showing several Chumash Indian villages on what Vizcaino called “*la costa segura de buena gente*” (the safe coast of good people.) In his diary, Vizcaíno describes a Chumash *tomel*, or canoe, in a rather biblical manner: “...in another canoe, so well-constructed and built that since Noah’s arc a finer and lighter vessel with timbers better made has not been seen.”

Point Conception, named by Vizcaíno, is one of the oldest European place names in the U.S. Other place names in the Santa Barbara area given by Vizcaíno still in evidence today are Cojo Canyon, Espada Canyon, Gaviota and Carpinteria.

As more and more Basque males came to the New World, their emigration was not only having an effect on Nueva España but also on the villages they left behind in the Basque Country. Historian Juan Javier Pescador suggests that some of those who returned to their villages brought back wealth that disrupted the traditional economy and hierarchy of the community. Also, with fewer men in some of the villages, women took on new roles and responsibilities on the farms and in the towns. Even the Church changed, having to adopt some to some New World religious practices and saints popular with the returning adventurers.

In addition, according to historian **José Manuel Azcona Pastor**, by 1520 two new American plants, beans and corn are added to the crops grown in the Basque Country. The potato reaches the Basque region of Europe in the late sixteenth century and these three crops, being more dependable than the native millet, increase agricultural land use and production in Euskadi.

1604- **Juan de Oñate y Salazar** explores into what will become Arizona and the lower Colorado River area arriving at the Pacific on the coast of Baja California.

1604-1605- Master carpenter and ship builder at Lequeitio, **Juan de Uriate** and several of the best shipwrights in Bizkaia, including **Martín de Zantua** and **San Juan de Axpe** are ordered by King Philip to improve the ship design of all ships headed to the Indies.

1608- **Juan Oñate y Salazar** is called to Mexico City. In 1613 he faces several charges including cruelty during the Acoma rebellion. He is fined, banished from New Mexico permanently and from Mexico City for four years. He spends the rest of his life clearing his name, evidently with some success. He dies in Spain in June of 1626.

1611- **Sebastián Vizcaino**, who had traveled the coast of California, explores the region of Japan searching for the islands *Ricas de Oro y Plata*.

1614- Don **Agustín de Zavala**, mentioned earlier, appoints Captain **Cristóbal de Irurreta** chief magistrate and captain of war in the city of Zacatecas.

1615- **Zavala** appoints **Irurreta** chief magistrate and captain of war for Monterrey.

1616- In Zacatecas, an elaborate church and Jesuit college is built with an endowment of 100,000 pesos from **Vincente de Zaldívar** and his wife, Doña Ana de Bañuelos.

1618- Ruthless slaver **Juan de Eulate** becomes Governor of New Mexico. According to historian France V. Scholes, Eulate was, "...a tactless, irreverent soldier whose actions were inspired by open contempt for the Church and its ministers and by an exaggerated conception of his own authority as the representatives of the Crown." He conducts illegal slave raids on the Apache and Navajo. He leaves New Mexico in 1625 and is tried and convicted of slave trading in 1626.

1618-1625- **Alonso de Idiáquez** is superintendent of all shipbuilding for the Indies.

1620- In the 100 years since conquest, the Indian population of Mexico has dropped from 17 million to 1 million due mainly to the European diseases of smallpox, measles, typhus, and influenza. The natives have no naturally acquired resistance to these illnesses.

1621- In Nueva Galicia, **Domingo Lázaro de Arregui** describes how the hearts of agave plants are squeezed to produce a clear but strong liquor—mezcal (early tequila)--in the frontier regions of New Spain.

1622- Three of the five members of the Maritime Sector of the Council of War that controls Spanish shipping to the Indies are Basque. They are: **Martín de Aróztegui**, mentioned before, **Juan de Pedroso**, and **Miguel de Ipeñarrieta de Araoz**.

Basque Pirates of the Caribbean

1622-1679 are the peak years of privateering (pirating) for Basque corsairs. The Caribbean Sea covers almost two million square miles with more than one thousand islands, islets and keys, mostly uninhabited, as places to hide.

The Basques involved in the practice are, technically, "privateers" because they sail under the Spanish flag, with the encouragement of the Spanish monarchy. Their presence in the Caribbean adds to the strength of the Spanish navy. However, to the French, English, Dutch and Portuguese ships they attack and capture, they are pirates.

At the time, the main corsair and privateer port of Spain is Donostia in Guipuzkoa. Almost three hundred pirate ships call Donostia their homeport while over seventy call Hondarribia home.

When a Basque privateer captures a ship from one of the countries listed, three-fourths to four-fifths of the cargo or "loot" goes to the Spanish government and the attacking ship keeps one-fourth to one-fifth. Successful privateer captains gain commissions in the Spanish navy and attain higher social and economic status.

The profits involved attract many outfitters, ship owners, captains and crews. Among them are: **Alonso de Idiáquez**, **Agustín de Diústegi**, **Miguel de Mecoalde**, **Francisco de Zárraga Beográn**, **Antonio de Beroiz**, **Guillermo Franquelin** and **Lorenzo de Echevarri**.

The Basque privateering did not stop in 1679. In 1686 Basque corsair captain **Pedro de Alcega** requests a Basque chaplain for his ship because most of his crew do not understand or speak Castilian. Even later, in 1730, captain **Ignacio de Noblesa** of the Basque pirate frigate *San Ignacio*, is plundering Dutch merchant ships off the Venezuelan coast for flour, spirits, oil, gunpowder, arms, tobacco and cacao.

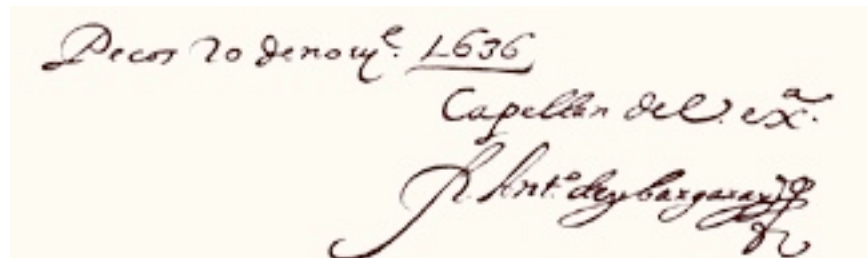
1625- **Francisco de Villarreal** is named Head Accountant of the Mexican Treasury.

1626- The governor of Nueva Leon is **Martín de Zavala** and Monterrey becomes an important mining center. The first priest of Monterrey is **Martín Abad de Uría**. The Captain of Monterrey is **Hernando de Ugarte y la Concha**.

1633- **Cibrian de Lizaraga** is the first Governor of the Caribbean island of St. Martin.

1634- **Agustín de Urquiza**, **Juan Bautista de Adalpe** and a young Indian herder attempt to trail two thousand sheep to Monterrey. Indians attack and kill the three of them and steal their sheep.

1635- **Lope Díez de Armendaríz**, from Araba, is viceroy of Mexico.

A handwritten document snippet on aged paper. The text is written in cursive script. The first line reads "Pecos 20 de nov. 1636". The second line reads "Capellan del Ex.". The third line is a signature, which appears to be "F. Ant. de Ybargaray".

“Pecos, November 20, 1636, Your Excellency’s Chaplain, Fray Antonio de Ybargaray”

1636- Fray **Antonio de Ybargaray** is sent to Pecos, New Mexico, to attempt to halt the abuses of governor Francisco Martínez de Baeza. His efforts result in a new governor, Luis de Rosas, who turns out to be no better than Baeza.

1636- **Hernando de Mendiola** establishes a hacienda and several successful ranches in Nueva Leon.

1637- **Domingo Ochoa de Irazagorria** is inspector of the Spanish fleets.

1638- **Sebastián Pérez de Gamedio Irigoyen** is cabildo scribe of San Juan Bautista de Caldereyta, Mexico.

1640- **Juan de Archuleta**, son of **Asensio** and now head of a wealthy and prominent New Mexican family, is probably the first European to enter present day Colorado.

1642- By this time, Basques have been in the New World for over one hundred and fifty years.

1643- **Archuleta**, the first European to see Colorado, is amongst a group implicated in a plot to assassinate governor of New Mexico, Alonzo de Pacheco de Herédia. He is found guilty and beheaded in the plaza of Santa Fe.

1652- **Nicolás de Gueycoichea** is the tax collector of Zacatecas.

1659- **Bernardo López de Mendizábal** becomes governor of New Mexico. He has a reputation as being an extortionist, devious and is described as "...a petulant, strutting, ungracious criollo with a sharp tongue and just enough education to be dangerous."

1659- In New Mexico, governor **Mendizábal** almost always takes the side of the Indians in their disputes with the priests. In his first year as governor, he initiates his problems with the friars as he prohibits involuntary labor from Indians at the missions.

1659-1684- Three important silver merchants in Mexico City are **Dámaso de Zaldívar**, Captain **Juan de Urrutia Retes** and **Dámaso de Zaldívar**.

1660- Basque fishermen from Lapurdi set up installations at Plaisance and Cap-Breton Isle, in what will become Canada.

1660- Governor **Mendizábal** of New Mexico, tries to establish a Sonora to New Mexico road. Apache Indians make the route extremely hazardous. Even with the problems with the Indians, he still takes their side as he remains extremely anti-clergy until he dies in jail during the Mexico City Inquisitions.

1662- As an example of the distances and time involved in travel, Ensign **Pedro de Arteaga** is assigned to take prisoner Francisco Gómez Robledo from Santo Domingo, New Mexico, to Mexico City to be judged at the Inquisitions being held. The trip takes from October 1662, to April 1663. Arteaga is paid 150 pesos. Robledo is acquitted. In addition, California historian Frank Latta reports that even as late as the middle 1800's, it may take one to two years for a letter to reach Alta California from Mexico.

1675- **Bernardo Zumbil y Echarri** is Corregidor (mayor) of Zacatecas.

1667- **Nicolás de Azcárraga** is governor of the province of Nuevo Reino de Leon, Mexico.

1676- **Isidro de Atondo y Antillón** is appointed governor and captain general of Sinaloa.

1678- Led by Italian friar Eusebio Francisco Kino and Basque **Matías Goñi**, Jesuits reach agreement with **Atondo y Antillón**, governor of Sinaloa, to study the possibility of building missions in Baja California.

In the same year **Atondo y Antillón** sets out on an expedition to establish colonies in California. Because the Spanish have been unable to subdue the Indians with force, he had been commissioned to investigate the possibility of religious intervention by the Jesuits and to look for the opening of new commercial areas. After exploring the coast of Baja California (which he thought was an island) he takes possession of Lower California in the name of the king of Spain on April 1, 1683 near the Bay of La Paz. (**Sebastián Vizcaíno** had given La Paz its name in 1596.)

1678- **Pascual Iriarte**, a former smuggler but an accomplished sea captain, is sent to the Straights of Magellan by the viceroy of Peru to search for English intruders into South America. He finds no English and has a son die on the excursion.

1678- **Francisco de Archuleta** and Doña Bernadina Baca become the first couple married in El Paso del Norte.

1678- The missions of San Pablo de Labradores and San Francisco are founded in Nueva Leon. Captain Don **Miguel de Ezcorigüela** distributes the surrounding land to the settlers.

1680-1682 In Texas, Fray **Francisco Ayeta** founds missions Socorro, San Antonia de Senecu, Corpus Christi de la Isleta and San Lorenzo.

1681- There are many excellent Basque governors in the New World. However, two of the worst are in Nueva Leon in this single year. The first, **Domingo de Vidagaray**, appointed by his personal friend King Carlos II, lasts only three months and nineteen days. He is wasteful and arrogant and dies due to "...banquets...and having eaten too many watermelons and cantaloupes..." He is replaced by **Juan de Echeverría** who is "...sickly and choleric...unjust and greedy..." Due to many complaints, the viceroy is forced to remove Echeverría from office before a rebellion is started against him.

1683-1685- **Matías Goñi** and Eusebio Kino explore Baja California searching for possible mission sites.

1683- Don **Agustín de Echéverz de Subiza** is governor of Nueva Leon, Mexico.

1684-At age 12 **Jean L'Archeveque** (also known as **Juan de Archibeque**) joins the expedition of René Robert Cavelier, Sieur de LaSalle, to reach the Mississippi. Born in Bayonne, he is a member of the group that assassinates La Salle. After imprisonment in Spain he settles in Santa Fe in 1694. He marries and attains wealth but continues as a soldier and is a scout for **Juan de Ulibarri**.

1686- The Rivas-**Iriarte** expedition makes a complete circuit of the Gulf of Mexico and may have been the first Europeans to see western Louisiana.

On Christmas morning, Martín de Rivas and **Pedro de Iriarte** set off from Vera Cruz to find the Sieur de La Salle's lost Texas colony. They do so in two 60-foot open vessels called *piraguas*, equipped with 20 oars per side and one sail. They carry provisions for

three and one half months with 65 soldiers and sailors in each boat and tow canoes for exploring shallow water. The expedition makes the first known exploration of both Galveston Bay and Sabine Lake. Because of their shallow-draft boats, they are able to explore many of the bays and inlets earlier expeditions had to bypass, including Atchafalaya Bay, the Mississippi Passes and Mobile Bay. They return to Vera Cruz via Havana in July of 1687.

1686- Fray **Juan de Luzuriaga** is commissioner general of the Franciscan order in New Spain. In this year he publishes a book about the Virgin of Aranzazu. It is titled, *Paranympho celeste. Historia de la mystica zarza, milagrosa imagen, y prodigioso santuario de Aranzazu.*

1690- **Juan Antonio de Urrutia y Arana** is alderman and head judicial administrator in Mexico.

1691- **José de Urrutia**, born in Gipuzkoa, accompanies Don Domingo Terán de los Rios into Texas when he is 14. Injured along Texas' Colorado River, Urrutia is forced to live among the friendly Kanohatino, Toho, and Xarame Indians for several years. He gains the respect of these tribes and learns their languages. Later, as a Captain in the Spanish Army, he directs the activities of all the nations hostile to the Apache and, under his leadership, conducts several extensive campaigns against the fierce Apache tribes. In addition, Urrutia, through intricate marriage connections, is related to the **Oñate** and **Zaldívar** families.

1692- By this time, Basques have been in the New World for over two hundred years.

1696- **Andrés de Rezábal**, a wealthy merchant from Sonora and one of the richest men in the region, is appointed commander of the citadel of Sinaloa. He holds the position until he dies in 1723.

1697- Royal Treasurer of Mexico, **Pedro de Labastida**, from Alaba, and friar **Juan de Urgarte** provide the funds for and are guardians of the money used to found the missions in California.

1697-The Spanish obtain domination of the entire Maya region of Central America when the Itza Maya are conquered by **Martín de Ursúa y Arizmendi**, Spanish governor of Yucatan. However, after the conquest the situation backfires as the Mayans disappear into the jungle and the Spaniards have no food or supplies, no one to convert and no slaves to take. In 1709 Ursúa will become Governor of the Philippines.

1697 to 1767- Seventeen missions are built in Baja California. Of the 62 friars who serve the missions, 10 are Basque: **José de Echeverria, Juan Bautista de Muguzabal, Juan Manuel de Basaldúa, Sebastián de Sistiaga, Juan Bautista and Agustín de Luyando, Juan and Pedro de Ugarte, Matías Goñi and Juan Salazar.** Five of these friars found Baja missions.

Not listed in this group is **Juan Pedro de Iriarte** who, starting in 1773, led the Dominicans who took over the old Baja missions from the Franciscans and **Pablo María de Zárate** who served in Baja from 1797 to 1821. Between 1773 and 1836 the Dominicans built eight new missions from Velicatá to San Diego. When the Dominicans took over the Baja missions, it freed the Franciscans to travel north and establish the missions of Alta California.

1698- **Andrés de Arriola** is commander of the presidio at Pensacola. His actions help limit early French exploration in the Gulf of Mexico. He draws the first map of Pensacola Bay and is convinced its presidio is indefensible.

1698- **Juan Urdiñola Yarza** is appointed governor of Guaylas in Peru.

1699- **Ygnacio Ynchaurrendieta** founds a prosperous mercantile company in Mexico City. He has partners, clients and creditors in Cádiz, Seville, Havana, Veracruz and Lima.

1700- Fray **Juan de Garaycoecha** is working among the Zuni.

1702- Fray **Juan de Urgarte** founds mission San Francisco Javier de Viggé in Baja California.

1704- **Juan Bautista de Muguzabal** (mentioned previously) arrives in what is now Baja California as a soldier. After a short term as head of a mission garrison he decides to become a Jesuit. He serves his noviceship under **Juan de Ugarte** and becomes a friar. Muguzabal becomes “the first man to pronounce officially his initial religious vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience” in California.

1705- Fray **Pedro de Ugarte** founds mission San Juan Bautista Malibat in Baja California.

1705- Financed by **Nicolás de Arteaga** of Mexico City, fray **Juan Manuel de Basaldúa** founds mission Santa Rosalía de Mulegé in Baja California.

1706- General **Juan de Ulibarrí** claims Colorado for Spain. He also makes the first recorded crossing of the Arkansas River on July 29, 1706. He is in command of twenty soldiers, twelve settlers and one hundred Indian allies as he goes from Santa Fe to eastern Colorado to successfully rescue enslaved Picuris Indians from the Cuartelejo Apaches. Ulibarrí is *Alcalde* mayor of Pecos and Galisteo, New Mexico from 1705 to 1710.

1706- General **Ulibarrí** is sent by governor Francisco Cuervo y Valdés to locate a suitable site for the settlement of Albuquerque, New Mexico. He locates the site along the Rio Grande River. It is originally known as *Villa de Alburquerque de San Francisco Xavier del Bosque*, named after the Viceroy of New Spain, the Duke of Albuquerque. Ulibarri places the first thirty-five families (two hundred fifty-two people) on their lands in the villa of Albuquerque.

1708- **Pedro de Aguirre**, born in Aranaz, Nafarroa to **Pedro** and **María Sagardia de Aguirre**, is a Captain in the Spanish army and commander of *Presidio del Río Grande del Norte* (present day El Paso.) In 1709, Aguirre accompanies two priests, fathers Antonio de San Buenaventura y Olivares and Isidro Félix de Espinosa on what is referred to as the Espinosa-Olivares-Aguirre Expedition to what is now Texas' Colorado River. On April 13 they arrive at the site of what is now San Antonio and name the nearby springs San Pedro Springs and the river, San Antonio de Padua. The expedition increases familiarity with Texas and gives a favorable impression of the lands along the San Antonio River to help encourage further settlement.

1710- **Joaquín Fermín Echauri**, from Nafarroa, establishes an *encomienda* covering more than three hundred and sixty thousand acres near Guadalajara.

1712- **Juan Bautista de Anssa** comes to the New World. His son, of the same name, spells his name **Anza**. For simplicity, "**Anza**" will be the spelling used in this chronology as it is the spelling favored by the premier Anza historian, **Donald Garate**.

1714- Basque mariners from Lapurdi are so numerous on the Canadian coasts of Labrador and the west coast of Newfoundland and so steady in their work that the King of France names an officer responsible for their security. From 1714 to 1716 it is **Francois Martel de Berhouague**. He is the son of **Raymond Martel de Berhouague**, a native of Labastide-Clairence. In the 1720's it is **Jean Gatin**. From 1753 to 1758 it is **Joseph Cadet** and **Joseph Caillabet**. All through the history of New France (Eastern Canada) Basque fishermen serve as the basis of Canadian enterprise. However, tradesmen other than fishermen are also prominent. These include, but are not limited to, **Martin Cheniqui**, carpenter, **Michel d'Irrumberry de Salaberry**, naval captain, **Leon Roussey**, transatlantic navigator and colonial pirate, **Dominique Daguerre**, rope maker and **Pierre Bidegaré**, a tanner. Also prominent are the **Tubide** and **Bastarache** families.

1715- Although Indian revolts make the situation difficult, Fray **Gregorio Osorio** and Fray Juan Antonio García attempt to establish a mission at La Junta de los Rios, Texas.

1716- **María Antonia Longoria** becomes one of the first European women to enter Texas.

1718-1719- Several Basques own the mines of Aguaje, Tetuachi and Basochuca, Sonora. Among them are **Martín de Ibarburu**, **Francisco de Aldaniz**, **Francisco Barcelon**, **José Goicoechea**, **Antonio Miranda**, **Juan Berroeta** and **Juan Bautista de Anza**.

In the 1700's the "richest man in Mexico" is **José de Laborda**. Laborda rediscovers silver in Taxco in 1716 and mines it for 50 years. At the time, he is considered to be the most knowledgeable miner in the world. **Pedro Felipe de Anza**, **Juan Bautista de Anza II**'s godfather, is Laborda's principal partner.

1719- When José de Azlor y Virto de Vera, the second Marqués de San Miguel de Aguayo, is appointed governor and captain general of the provinces of Coahuila and

Texas he offers to drive the French from New Spain. In 1720 he receives a commission from the Viceroy of Mexico to attempt to do so by reoccupying the East Texas mission and presidio abandoned by Spain during the French invasion of Texas the year before.

Aguayo accepts the commission and finances the expedition himself. This is possible because his wife, **Ignacia Xaviera de Echevers y Valdez**, great-great-granddaughter of **Francisco de Urdiñola**, is heir to the huge Urdiñola fortune. When they married she was one of the wealthiest widows in New Spain. They live on the gigantic Urdiñola hacienda Patos which, mentioned before, covers half of the province of Coahuila. (It is through **Ignacia** and her mother, **Francisca de Valdes Alceaga y Urdiñola**, who was married to Don **Agustín de Echevers**, that the Marqués de Aguayo title is transmitted to Azlor. Don Agustín received the title for heroics on the frontier of *Nueva Viscaya*.)

When Azlor enters Texas in 1720 the province has only one presidio and two missions, one of which he had established only a few months previously. When Azlor leaves Texas, two years later, there are four presidios and ten missions. The second Marqués de San Miguel de Aguayo, using his Basque wife's family fortune, solidifies Spain's claim to Texas so that the French never again challenge it.

Azlor dies in 1734, one year after his wife, and both are buried at Mission Santa Mariá, in Parras. This is the same mission at which his wife's great-great-grandfather, **Francisco de Urdiñola**, established the New World's first commercial winery in 1593.

1720- Fray **Juan de Urgarte** founds mission Nuestra Señora del Pilar de La Paz Airapi in Baja California.

1720- Pedro de Villasur leads a small group of veteran New Mexico soldiers to search for Frenchmen believed to be living among the Pawnee Indians. He cuts across the corner of present day southeast Colorado, northwest Kansas and into Nebraska. On August 20, at the junction of the Platte and Loup rivers Pawnee and Oto Indians ambush the party and kill most of the Spaniards including Villasur. **Jean L'Archeveque (Juan de Archibeque)** mentioned earlier, who was along as a translator and emissary, is also killed. He is left unburied on the bank of one of the rivers.

1720- Future Governor of Sinaloa and Sonora, **Agustín de Vildósola**, owns and works mines in the Tetuachi, Rosalia and Arizipe regions. In 1722 he is living in *Real de Minas de San Juan Bautista*, the capitol city of Sonora.

1726- **Bruno Mauricio de Zabala** founds Montevideo, the capitol of Uruguay.

1728- **Juan Bautista de Anza** begins acquiring livestock ranches. The first is Guevavi ranch near Guevavi mission. It is the first working livestock ranch in what is now Arizona. It remains a working ranch for over 250 years.

1728- Friars **Sebastián de Sistiaga** and **Juan Bautista de Luyendo** found mission San Ignacio Kadakaamán in Baja California. The construction is financed with Luyendo's family inheritance of 10,000 pesos.

1728- The *Real Compania Guipuzcoana de Caracas* is formed by a group of merchants in Guipuzkoa dealing with the Caracas province in Venezuela. It controls a monopoly in the trade of cacao, precious metals, sugar and leather. By 1750 the company has twelve large ocean-going ships, nineteen coastal vessels with twenty-five hundred crewmen carrying twenty-five hundred tons of freight each year in both directions.

1729, Basque governor of Nueva Viscaya, **Ignacio Francisco de Barrutia**, appoints **Agustín de Vildósola** militia captain for all of Sonora.

1730- One of the most important and influential financial and social organizations in the New World is founded in Mexico City. It is called the **Confraternity of Our Lady of Aránzazu** and it provides for a wide range of social and charitable activities. In addition, it fills all the functions of a banking or financial institution. Among its Basque members are: **Francisco Javier de Gamboa**, **José Francisco de Uribe**, **Francisco Fagoaga Iragorri**, **Juan de Castañiza**, **Francisco Fagoaga Arosqueta**, **Antonio de Bassoco**, **General Francisco de Echeveste**, **Manuel de Aldaco**, **José Padilla Estrada**, **Ambrosio de Meabe**, **Miguel de Amozarrain**, **José de Gárate**, **Pedro Negrete**, **José Dávalos Espinosa**, the archbishop of Mexico **Juan Antonio de Vizarrón y Equiarreta** and the future archbishop of Mexico from 1752-1763, **Juan José Eguiara y Eguren**.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, likely a cursive script, reading "Juan Ant. Vizarrón y Equiarreta". The signature is fluid and somewhat stylized, with long, sweeping strokes.

Juan Antonio de Vizarrón y Equiarreta

1730- **Juan Antonio de Vizarrón y Equiarreta** is Archbishop of Mexico.

1730- **Juan Francisco de Iramategui**, from Ondarroa, Bizkaia becomes wealthy from his mining ventures in the Guanajuato area of Mexico.

1730- In the 1730's **Anza** acquires additional ranches in the Pimería Alta region. These are ranchos San Mateo, Sicurisuta and Sópori. Sópori ranch is still an operating ranch to this day.

1733- Captain **José de Urrutia**, mentioned before as living with Indians, is commander of the presidio of San Antonio de Bexar, Texas. His residence is the Comandancia that is known today as the Spanish Governors' Palace in San Antonio.

(Presidios had been in use since the middle 1500's in Mexico. They were fortified garrisons of a half-dozen or more soldiers that guarded a populated or important strategic location from the native Indians. The southern part of what is now the US and the northern part of Mexico was once home to various bands and groups of these Indians that knew no political boundaries who staged indiscriminate raids. As the Spanish pushed

further north, settlements became further apart and lines of supply and communication became longer and more exposed to Indian attacks, which became more intense. The area was initially populated at these widespread presidios and missions connected by a network of fairly primitive trails. Basque military personnel and priests administered many of these outposts.)

ARIZ ONA

For many years, politicians, citizens and historians have debated the origin of the word naming the 48th state, “**Arizona**.” Some claimed it was an Indian word with various meanings while others said it was probably of Spanish origin.

However:

In 1736, at a site 17 miles south of the present U.S. border, a unique silver deposit was discovered in the province of Sonora, Mexico. Because the area had been almost totally settled by Basque frontiersmen and ranchers, a tiny settlement close by the discovery location had a Basque name, *aritz ona*, or “good oak.” In 1939 historian Herbert E. Bolton, in his book *Outpost of Empire: The Story of the Founding of San Francisco*, mentions the connection of the discovery site to the naming of Arizona but he does not make the Basque language connection.

In his book, *Juan Bautista de Anza, Basque Explorer in the New World, 1693-1740*, Arizona historian **Donald Garate** devotes almost an entire chapter developing the foundation for the Basque origin for the name of the state of Arizona. Garate is also the author of “Who Named Arizona? The Basque Connection” published in the spring 1999 edition of *The Journal of Arizona History*, and “Arizona (Never Arizonac)” plus several other papers and articles that virtually prove the Basque origin of the name.

Previously, William A. Douglass also wrote of the Basque origins of the word in the December 1979 issue of *Names*. The article is titled, “On the Naming of Arizona.”

In addition, because of Garate’s work, The Arizona Historical Society’s website now answers the question, “What does the name Arizona mean?” in this manner:

“Many answers have been posed for this question. Some suggested that it came from “arid zone,” but much of Arizona is not arid, and Spanish grammar would have dictated “Zona Arida,” putting the adjective last. The next suggestion attributed it to an O’odham Indian phrase, “Ali Shonac” meaning shallow, brackish water or spring. **However, recent writings present the best cause for the Basque phrase “Aritz ona[c]” meaning the good oak tree or trees. The name was first applied to a huge silver discovery southwest of modern day Nogales, Arizona, an area where oak trees grow. The fact that there are several more areas with the same name in Central and South America lend the most credence to the Basque origin.**” (Emphasis added.) Among the Basques Garate lists who were involved in the *ariz ona* site and the silver discovery there are:

José Fermin de Almazan, discoverer of a slab of silver weighing almost a ton;

Juan Bautista de Anza, born in Hernani, Gipuzkoa, who had to keep the peace at the discovery site and try and come to a fair settlement regarding the actual discoverers and how to distribute the silver among all the claimants.

Pedro Felipe de Anza, born in San Sebastián, Gipuzkoa, Juan Bautista de Anza’s first cousin and godfather of **Juan Bautista de Anza II**;

Agustin de Aresti, lawyer from Mexico City;

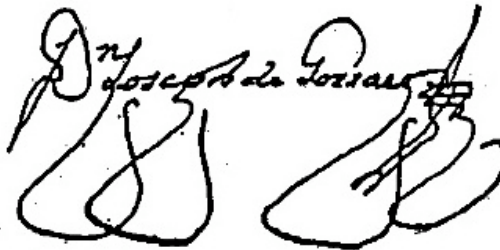
Juan de Echagoyen, Mexican-born Basque missionary;
Francisco Antonio Echevarri, *oidor* (judge) of the Real Acuerdo;
Francisco de Garduño, statement witness;

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Tomas de Garnica'. The script is cursive and somewhat stylized, with a large initial 'T' and 'G'.

Tomas de Garnica, *arriero* (mule packer);
Francisco de Garrastegui, *alcalde mayor* of Sonora;

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Domingo de Gomendio Urrutia'. The script is cursive, with a large initial 'D' and 'G'.

Domingo de Gomendio Urrutia, *alcalde ordinario* of Mexico City;

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'José de Gorraez'. The script is cursive, with a large initial 'J' and 'G'.

José de Gorraez, recorder (*Escribano mayor de gobernación y guerra*) of the discovery in Mexico City;

Blas de Gortazar, accountant for **Agustín de Vildósola**;

Juan Domingo de Guraya;

José de Leiva, early arriver at silver site;

Francisco de Longoria filed the first silver claim in the *ariz ona* area and later became Lieutenant Governor of Sonora;

Luis de Mendivil, merchant and miner;

José de Mesa, one of earliest prospectors on the site (Previously, his entire family had been killed in an Apache raid);

Francisco Xavier de Miranda, Sonora militia captain and mining expert;

Antonio Bautista de Morueta, witness;

Martin de Murrieta, *teniente general* of Sonora and Ostimuri from 1725 to 1727;

A handwritten signature in dark ink, featuring a large, stylized initial 'S' followed by the name 'José de Olave' in a cursive script.

José de Olave, Anza's deputy *justicia mayor* for the San Luis Valley;
José de Osorio, scribe;

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Gabriel de Prudhom Butron y Mujica' in a cursive script, with a long horizontal flourish below it.

Gabriel de Prudhom Butron y Mujica, *alcalde mayor* of Sonora from July 1727 to July 1735. He drew a draft map of Sonora on which *ariz ona* is shown;
Francisco Perez Serrano, possibly one of the original Basque founders of the area. He is the father of **Ana Maria Perez Serrano**, wife of **Juan Bautista de Anza II**.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, featuring a large, stylized initial 'B' followed by the name 'Bernardo de Urrea' in a cursive script.

Bernardo de Urrea, Anza's deputy *justicia mayor* and also one of the first *ariz ona* area residents. He probably named the **ariz ona** ranch;
José de Usarraga, mining expert appointed by Anza;
José Joaquín de Usarraga, son of José de Usarraga;
José de Veitia, *oidor* of the Real Acuerdo;
Lorenzo de Velasco discovered a one and one half ton slab of silver near *ariz ona* and parlayed it into the largest ranching operation in Sonora at the time;
Agustín de Vildósola, born in Billaro, Bizkaia in 1700, had large mining interests and was second governor of Sonora, 1741-1748;
Juan Antonio de Vizarrón y Equiarreta, Archbishop of Mexico and Viceroy of *Nueva España* 1734-1740; and

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Juan José de Zarasua". The script is cursive and elegant, with a large, decorative flourish at the end of the name.

Juan José de Zarasua, *escribano real* in Mexico City.

Basque scholar and historian Garate makes a compelling argument for the Basque origin of the word **Arizona** and, as he states in his book: “Although the choice of the name fell to a man named William Claude Jones, he would have never heard of the word had it not been for Juan Bautista de Anza. In that sense, Anza is responsible for the name that the forty-eighth state bears. Had he not chosen to hold his court of inquiry at Bernardo Urrea’s house located at the place called Arizona...hardly anyone would have heard of it. It would just be the sleepy little ranch that it still is today, located at the bottom of a deep canyon in

northern Sonora, about ten air miles south of the present international border---south of a state that would undoubtedly have been named something else.” (Emphasis added.)

Historians are very careful when examining and accepting changes regarding long-held beliefs. However, more and more individuals in academia and the field of history are embracing Garate’s findings regarding the naming of Arizona. As another example, Arizona State Historian Marshall Trimble also now agrees with Garate’s conclusions regarding the origin of the name.

Garate’s book on Anza is excellent reading and he has written a second volume on **Anza II** now in the process of being published. **Donald Garate** is very involved in research into and preservation of the Spanish history of both Arizona and Sonora, Mexico, and has brought attention to new information concerning the Basque influence in Southwest and U.S. history. He is chief of interpretation and a historian at Tumacácori National Historical Park in Arizona, north of Nogales.

The Arizona episode is another example of how Basques attracted other Basques to their endeavors and activities and how the northern frontier of Mexico was populated by a large number of Basques. Language, family, culture and loyalty to each other were and, in most cases still are, of extreme importance to Basques.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "José Manuel Díaz del Carpio". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent flourish at the end.

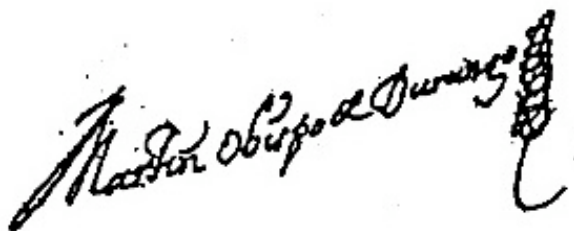
José Diaz del Carpio

1733- Captain **José Diaz del Carpio**, from Gamarra, Alaba, is made commander of Jano presidio in Sonora.

1733- **José de Urrutia** becomes commandant of San Antonio. In San Antonio, he receives a Royal Land Grant from the King of Spain. He and his ancestors become important and influential residents of the city.

1734- **Fernández de Jáuregui y Urrutia** is named captain general of Nuevo León.

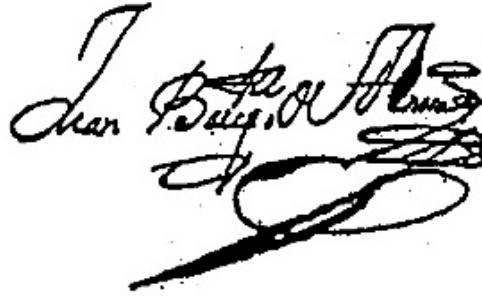
1735- **Francisco Antonio González de Echavarry y Ugarte**, from Gasteiz, is judge of the High Court of Mexico City. After holding this position for thirty years, he is appointed Mexico City's governor and captain general.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Martin de Elizacoechea". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent flourish at the end.

Martin de Elizacoechea

1737- **Martin de Elizacoechea**, born in Azpilkueta, Nafarroa, becomes Bishop of Durango, Kingdom of Nueva Vizcaya, Mexico. (He had also been dean and chancellor of the University of Mexico and bishop of Cuba and Michoacán.) **Pedro de Echenique** and **Juan Ignacio de Arrasain**, fellow Nafarroans, are his personal secretary and confessor, respectively.

Elizacoechea is addressed as, "*Doctor don Martín de Elizacoechea, bishop of Durango, the kingdom of Nueva Viscaya, its confines, and the provinces of New Mexico, Tarahumara, Sonora, Sinaloa, Pimas, Moqui, and of His Majesty's Council.*"

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Juan Bautista de Anza', with a large, stylized flourish at the bottom.

Juan Bautista de Anza

1737- **Juan Bautista de Anza**, Chief Justice of Sonora, petitions Viceroy and Archbishop **Juan Antonio de Vizarrón y Equiarreta** to open a land route from Sonora to Alta California. (When Anza became captain of the presidio at Fronteras he was responsible for protecting a huge area of more than 100,000 square miles. This was more than ten times larger than the entire Basque Country and he had only 50 soldiers to patrol it with. One-quarter to one-third of the area was in what is now Arizona and it was from this section of the territory that the Apache staged most of their raids into lower Sonora.) Anza's accomplishments are far too numerous to mention here. Please see Donald Garate's "Juan Bautista de Anza, Basque Explorer in the New World, 1693-1740."

1737- Fray **José de Arlegui** publishes his *La Crónica de la Provincia de N.S.P.S. Francisco de Zacatecas*. It is a fanciful, error-filled history of the province of Nueva Leon which causes confusion and the spread of misinformation that is not resolved until modern research proves its inconsistencies.

1739- The eighteen-century marked extensive economic growth in Cuba. The crowning event is when *El Real Compania de Comercio de la Habana* (The Royal Company of Commerce of Havana) is formed. The company is created with Basque capital and holds monopolies on Havana's foreign commerce in tobacco, sugar, leather, and shipyards for many years. It is lead by **Martín de Arostegui Larrea**. Among his business contacts and associates in Cuba and Europe are: **José de Iturrigaray**, **Miguel Antonio de Zuazábar**, **Juan Bautista de Zuazábar**, **Francisco de Aldecoa**, **Agustín de Aldecoa**, **Andres de Otamendi**, **Bernardo de Goicoa** and **Luis Ibarra**. Unfortunately, Arostegui actually concentrates on trading slaves and selling tobacco for his own personal gain to the British American colonies rather than to Spain. His business partners learn of his deeds and in 1752 he is arrested and removed from the company.

However, almost all commerce to and from the New World passes through Havana. Historian **Pastor** states that, "Cuba's eighteenth-century could be characterized, especially qualitatively, as a period of Basque preeminence." Basques constitute an influential and powerful pressure group in the island's social, economic, and cultural events. **Domingo de Lizundia y Odria de Echeverría**, from Guipuzkoa, is treasurer of the Royal Tobacco Income. His daughter marries Araban brigadier **Matías de Armona y Murga**. **José de Lizundiá**, Domingo's brother, and a member of the Council of His Majesty in the Head Accountants' Office and administrator general of royal income, marries into the family of Bizkaian **José de Beitia y Rentería**, the marquis of Real Socorro. It is one of the wealthiest and most influential Basque families in Cuba

1739- **José de Urrutia**, mentioned previously, leads a campaign against the Apache in what is now known as the Texas Hill Country. This campaign would bring a short period of peace and stability to the area. Urrutia has many holdings in Coahuila and Texas. He dies in San Antonio on July 16, 1741. (Urrutia had a great respect for the abilities of the Apache.)

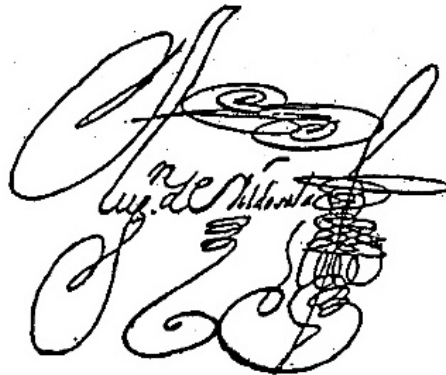
1740- On May 9 **Juan Bautista de Anza**, Sonoran hero and Captain of the royal presidio of Fronteras, is killed while returning home from patrol by arrows from a lightning-quick Apache ambush. His burial place is unknown.

According to historian Donald Garate, the Apache attacked somewhere in the Pimería Alta (southern Arizona and northern Sonora) almost every month during the full moon. They used the darkness of the night for cover and the light of the moon for swift travel.

1740- On May 12 **José Diaz Del Carpio**, mentioned earlier, leads an attack that kills 13 Apache warriors as revenge over the killing of **Anza**. (It is not known if the Indians he killed were, in fact, responsible for Anza's death.) He takes another 14 as prisoners.

The illustration by Frederick Remington on the cover depicts the armor worn by the Spanish in the early years of conquest. By the late 1600's and early 1700's the soldiers had switched to layers of leather on a long coat to replace the metal armor. Both forms of protection were heavy and hot.

1740- **Toribio Urrutia**, son of **José**, takes command of San Antonio for his ailing father.



Agustín de Vildósola

1740- In August, **Agustín de Vildósola** defeats a force of more than 6,000 rebelling Indians in Sonora. In 1741 Vildósola, who had primarily been a mining developer in northern Mexico since the early 1720s, becomes the second governor of Sonora.

1742- By this time, Basques have been in the New World for two hundred and fifty years.

1742- Fray **José Buzeta** introduces potable water to Guadalajara.

1747- **Agustín de Vildósola** establishes the presidio of Pitic in northern Sonora. In the same year, Basque friars **Francisco Xavier de Anaya**, **Agustín de Arriola** and **Gabriel de Urrutia** are also serving in the area.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Gabriel Anti de Vildósola". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'G' and a decorative flourish at the end.

Gabriel Antonio de Vildósola

1747- **Gabriel Antonio de Vildósola**, from Elejabeitia, Bizkaia and a distant relative of **Agustín**, is living in the Pimería Alta region of northern Sonora at the royal mining town of Real de Basochuca. There, on February 1, he marries **Josefa Gregoria Juaquina de Anza**, the fourteen-year old daughter of **Juan Bautista de Anza**.

1749- Three missions are established on the San Gabriel River in Texas. Fray **Juan José Ganzabal** is the head of Mission San Ildofonso. In 1751 Captain Felipe de Rábago y Terán is appointed commandant of the nearby presidio of San Francisco Xavier de Gigedo. Rábago has an affair with the wife of soldier Juan José Ceballos. Ganzabal delivers a decree of excommunication to Rábago. On May 11, 1752 gunshots and arrows kill **Ganzabal** and Ceballos. The attack was certainly instigated by Rábago but was blamed on Indians.

1751- **Juan Bautista de Anza II** joins the Spanish militia at the age of 15. His brother-in-law, **Gabriel Antonio de Vildósola**, becomes his military mentor.

1751- In November, the Pima in Sonora begin a bloody revolt against every outpost, mission and ranch in the area. Many Spanish men, women and children are killed in addition to friendly Indians. Pima chief Captain-General Luís Oapicagigua leads the revolt.

1751- Led by Lieutenant **Bernardo de Urrea**, the Spanish decisively defeat Pima rebels at Aribaca.

1752- Captain **José Diaz del Carpio** sends a note to Pima chief Oacicagigua asking him to surrender. Oacicagigua consents and walks alone into Tubac to present himself to Diaz del Carpio. The Pima revolt is over. If Oacicagigua had not surrendered, the Spanish retaliation would have been the extermination of the Pima.

1752- **Juan Tomás de Beldarrain**, commander of the Company of Sinaloa, is made the first commander of the Royal Fort of St. Ignatius at Tubac in what is now Arizona.

1752- **Manuel de Aldaco**, the leading silver banker of his day, **Ambrosio de Meave** and **Francisco de Echeveste**, all very successful merchants, found *El Colegio de San Ignacio de Mexico*. Known as the *Colegio de las Vizcainas*, it is a school for orphan Basque girls.

1753-1754 Captain **Bernardo de Urrea** is the founding commandant of the presidio of Altar, Sonora. Later, his sons and their descendants become leaders in the province. **Mariano de Urrea**, Bernardo's grandson, is commandant of Altar from 1805 to 1811 and Mariano's son, **José de Urrea**, becomes a notable general to be mentioned later.

1754- **Gabriel Antonio de Vildósola** is appointed captain of the Presidio of Fronteras. Basque **Francisco Bustamante** will also command Fronteras.

1755- On May 15, captain in charge Tomás de la Barrera y Gallardo, his wife Doña **Catalina de Uribe**, their nine children and seven servants lead three other families to settle Laredo.

1756- **Vildósola** leads soldiers against the Gila Apache in an effort to secure a safe route between Sonora and Santa Fe.

1756- **Anza II**, age 20, is made cavalry lieutenant at Fronteras. The Apache will wound Anza twice.

1758- José Antonio de Cuervo purchases the estancia, *Confradía de los Animas*, from **Vincente de Saldivar**. Among other things, Saldivar has been producing mezcal at the location for years. Cuervo becomes the first licensed producer of mezcal tequila. His descendent, José María Guadalupe Cuervo, uses the land to build a tequila distillery. In 1900, **José Cuervo Labastida** changes the name of the brand to "José Cuervo."

1758- **Joachin de Usarraga** is ensign in charge of the Pimería Alta Company.

1759- **Juan Tomás de Beldarrain**, first Captain of Tubac presidio in Arizona, dies from wounds caused by a poisoned Seri Indian arrow. Governor **Juan de Mendoza** appoints **Juan Bautista de Anza, II**, to take his place. (An interesting note provided by historian Garate is that **Juan Tomás de Beldarrain** and **Ambrosio de Meave**, the financier who controlled the money for all of *Nueva España* in the last quarter of the 18th century, were born and raised directly across the street from each other in Durango, Bizkaia.)

José Antonio de Vildósola

1759- **José Antonio de Vildósola**, **Gabriel's** nephew, takes **Anza's** place as lieutenant at Fronteras. His arrival date in Mexico is unknown.

1759-1776- **Julián de Arriaga** is Minister of the Indies.

1760- Governor **Mendoza** is struck in the throat by a poisoned Seri arrow near Saracachi, Sonora. He is brought back to Horcasitas where he dies two days later on November 27. Life on the northern frontier of Mexico is extremely tenuous. Indians could overrun the tiny settlements in an instant. No one knew when an arrow or a club or spear would end his or her life. Priests living in this wilderness mentioned in letters to each other that they expect to be killed as "God's will." However, as in other areas, smallpox and measles epidemics killed many more people in Sonora than all the Apache wars combined.

1760- **Francisco Antonio de Echévarri** is Viceroy of Mexico.

1760's- **José Antonio Aguirre** and his brother-in-law **Miguel de Pedrorena** and three Americans plan and are owners of the city of San Diego.

1760's-1790's- **José Joaquín Lecuona** is treasurer in Mexico for expeditions to Sonora, Nueva Vizcaya, Loreto, San Blas and California.

1761- **Francisco Xavier de Gamboa** publishes *Commentaries on the Mining Ordinances* regarding the technical aspects of mining gold and silver in Mexico.

1761- On June 24, **Juan Bautista de Anza II** marries Anna María Pérez Serrano. As is the custom of the day, the marriage needs to be approved by governor of the province and long-time friend of the Anza family, **Bernardo de Urrea**.

José Manuel Diaz del Carpio, son of **José Diaz del Carpio**, the Janos commander who attempted to avenge Anza II father's death, serves as military chaplain at Tubac. José Manuel is a brother-in-law of Anna María Pérez Serrano because his brother, **Ignacio** is married to a sister of Anza, **María Gertrudis de Anza**.

1761-1762- **Gabriel** and **José Vildósola**, along with **Anza II** are involved in campaigns against the Seri and Apache in the Gila River area.

1762- In the fall, a joint campaign against the Seri involves several Basque presidio commanders: **Anza** from Tubac, **Bernardo de Urrea** from Altar, **Gabriel de Vildósola** from Fronteras and **José de Leizaloe** from Janos.

1763- **Luis Antonio Menchaca**, grandson of José Urrutia, takes command of San Antonio.

1764- Lieutenant Colonel **Juan de Ugalde**, son of Brigadier General **Miguel** and **Doña Catalina González de Ugalde**, is sent to South America where he is Corregidor of Cochabamba, Bolivia until 1772 when he returns to Spain. He will return to the New World as an Indian fighter in 1776.

1764- Second lieutenant **Joseph Ramón de Urrutia y De Las Casas**, born in Casa de la Mella, Bizkaia, comes to New Spain. He is a trained cartographer and on a 1766-1768 expedition to the northern frontier of New Spain he draws a comprehensive map of the entire area plus 22 plans of various presidios and towns visited during the expedition. (His amazing drawings can be seen on the Tumacácori website.) In 1770 he returns to Spain and takes various assignments around the world. He is appointed field marshal and in 1795 he is named captain-general of the armies of Spain. In 1797 he becomes a member of the King's Supreme Council of War. He dies on March 1, 1803 in Madrid. A full-length portrait of Urrutia by Francisco Goya hangs in the *Museo del Prado* in Madrid.

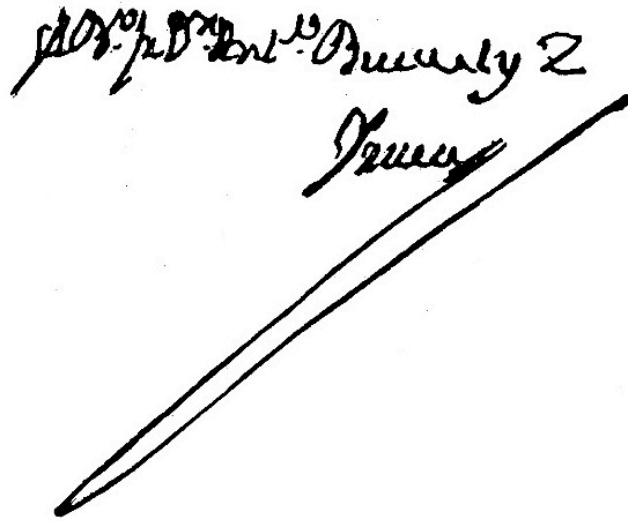
1765- **Juan Bautista de Anza II** makes **José de Huandurraga** ensign at Tubac.

1767- At San Blas de Nayarit, on the Pacific coast of Mexico, a naval base is built to launch new explorations and provision colonies. San Blas is the most important sea base in the North Pacific from 1767 to 1797. The first administrator of the region is **Juan de Urrengoechea y Arrinda**. The three head ship builders are also Basques, **Pedro de Yzaguirre**, **Francisco Segurola** and **Manuel de Bastarrechea**.

1768- In May, General **Domingo Elizondo** is sent to Sonora from Spain with 1,100 troops to put down uprisings and raids by Seri, Pima, Suaqui and Sibubapa Indians.

1769- General **Elizondo** leads four divisions against the Seri. **Gabriel de Vildósola** leads one of the divisions. One of his officers is **Ignacio de Urrea** of the Altar presidio and Gabriel's nephew, **Antonio**, leads the scouts. **Juan Bautista de Anza II** serves under Elizondo and **Miguel Gregorio de Echarri** is Elizondo's supply officer. In April of 1771, after thirty-eight months, the Seri War is abandoned as being far too costly and largely unsuccessful due to the Indians' effective guerrilla-fighting techniques.

Historian David Weber states: "Spain's goal, of course, had not been the annihilation of the Indians, but rather their transformation into tax-paying Christians." However, the continued loss of their territories, native religion and culture plus being forced into unpaid labor and the exposure to new diseases made a peaceful transition into the Spanish lifestyle very difficult.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Antonio María Bucareli y Ursúa". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends diagonally across the page.

Antonio María Bucareli y Ursúa

1768- **Antonio María Bucareli y Ursúa** is appointed Governor and Captain General of Cuba. Of Basque descent on his mother's side he is appointed Viceroy of *Nueva España* in 1771 and holds the office until he dies on April 19, 1779. He is noted for the prudent and humane administration of his office and, under his leadership, Mexico enjoys greater prosperity and security than most of Spanish America. (Historian Herbert E. Bolton says Bucareli y Ursúa is "...one of the ablest of all the corps of remarkable officials who served New Spain in the later eighteenth century...") It is by his earlier order that Felipe de Neve founds the city of Los Angeles in 1781.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Jacobo de Ugarte y Loyola". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, ornate flourish at the end that loops back under the signature.

Jacobo de Ugarte y Loyola

1769- **Jacobo de Ugarte y Loyola** is appointed governor of Coahuila. In 1777 he is made military governor of Sonora. He also serves briefly as the governor of Puebla in the mid 1780's. In 1786 he is made commandant general of the Interior Provinces, which includes Sonora, Alta and Baja California, Nueva Vizcaya, New Mexico, Texas and Coahuila. He governs Sonora and the Californias in person but, because of the vast

distances involved, he chooses three fellow Basques to govern the rest: **Diego de Borica**, Nueva Vizcaya; **Juan Bautista de Anza**, New Mexico; and **Juan de Ugalde**, Texas and Coahuila.

While governor of Coahuila **Ugarte** insists the only acceptable remedy to problems posed by Lipan Apaches is to deport them to an overseas province. Later, having jurisdiction of the Interior Provinces he implements a policy consistent with his hatred of the Apaches. However, he favors a general peace with the Comanche and a treaty is negotiated, at the expense of the Lipan Apaches, by Governor Domingo Cabello y Robles in Texas. **Ugarte** dies August 19, 1798 in Guadalajara after completing 58 years in the service of Spain.

1769- Gaspar de Portola's expedition into present day California includes friar **Juan Viscaino** and Mallorcan friar, Junipero Serra.

1770- Wealthy Cuban Basques, **Silvestre Abarca y Aznar** and **Agustín Cramer Mañecas**, both originally from Nafarroa, construct the warehouse of the Royal Tobacco Trading Post. It remains one of Havana's main buildings until the early 20th Century.

Many Basques are prominent in the mercantile business of Cuba. Among these are: **Sebastián de Arratibel Zafinea**, **Gabriel Francisco de Ercaizti Goizueta**, **Francisco Isaac de Mendiola y Múgica**, **Juan Ignacio Urriza**, and **Domingo Ugarte Zubiate**. **Zubiate** marries **María Jesús Arostegui**, the daughter of one of the founders of the Royal Company of Commerce of Havana, **Martín de Arostegui Larrea**.

In addition, **Sebastián de Lasa y Irala**, from Gipuzkoa, and his son, introduce new types of sugar cane to the island.

1771- **José Antonio de Vildósola** is made captain of the presidio of Terrenate.

1771- Governor of New Mexico **Fermín de Mendinueta** negotiates peace with the Comanche.

1771- Catalan Friar Palou is appointed religious leader of the Alta California missions with Basque **José Antonio de Murguía** as his aide.

1771- Friar **Juan José Agorreta** serves briefly at mission Tumacácori.

1772- Three Basques are in charge of Alta California missions: **Gregorio Amurrio**, San Diego; **Fermín Francisco de Lasuén**, San Gabriel and **Juan Prestamero**, San Luis Obispo. Catholic missionaries, including the Basques, bring livestock and many food crops into the areas they settle, which become the basis for future agricultural endeavors.

1772- King Carlos III of Spain makes the following statement: "I prohibit the commandant-inspector and the captains of presidios from granting the [Indians of New Spain] peace," prompting even more violence between the natives and settlers.

1774- **Juan Bautista de Anza, II**, receives backing from Basque bankers, financiers and monopolists in Mexico City for expeditions to open a land route from Sonora to Alta California and for the colonization of what is now San Francisco, California. (The

expeditions are intended to establish and protect Spanish interests in Alta California from the Russians and British who are gradually moving down the Pacific coast from the north.)

In his paper, “*Juan Bautista de Anza, His Ethnic Connections and the Expedition to Alta California*,” historian **Donald Garate** shows that Anza is chosen to make the trek rather than Governors Sastre and Crespo of Sonora or Commander Rivera of California, for several reasons. Among these reasons are his family and ethnic heritage as a criollo of Basque descent and his connections to the powerful political, financial and trade network of Basques in and around Mexico City. Anza is able to secure this political and financial aid, which is largely unavailable to non-Basques.

The powerful Basques in the government include the Viceroy of Mexico **Antonio María Bucareli y Ursua**, **Francisco de Viana** of the Royal Audencia of Mexico, **Joseph Antonio de Areche**, senior fiscal of the Royal Audencia, **Domingo de Arangoiti**, who takes Areche’s place in the Audencia when Areche is sent to Peru, and **Julian de Arriaga**, Minister of the Indies, who must approve of and present Anza’s plans to the King of Spain.

Two influential lawyers are also involved in this network. They are previously mentioned **Francisco Xavier de Gamboa**, a criollo who drew up the rules of government for the College of the Vizcainas and Durango resident **Agustin Josef de Echeverria y Orcolaga**, a native Basque.

The Council of War must also approve of Anza’s plans. At least half the members of the Council are Basque. They include **Bucareli y Ursua**, **Areche**, **Juan Chrisostomo de Barroeta**, **Fernando Mangino** and **Antonio de Villaurrutia**. **Villaurrutia** is the only criollo, or Mexican-born Basque, the others are Old Country Basques.

Financiers and merchants that are intertwined in this Basque substructure and who are important to Anza are his friend and Sonoran merchant **Francisco de Guizamotegui** and **Juan Bautista de Arosqueta** who founds a business that evolves into one of the most powerful economic establishments in all of Nueva España. Arosqueta’s daughter, **Josefa**, marries **Francisco de Fagoaga Iragorri** in 1716 and meshes the wealth of these two families together. **Fagoaga** establishes and owns the Royal Silver Bank of Mexico. After he dies, the Fagoaga brothers, **Antonio de Bassoco** and their brothers-in-law, the **Villaurrutias** and **Castañizas** make up the most powerful colonial establishment in trade, church and law throughout all of Mexico.

Another important businessman is **Manuel de Aldaco**, who marries Fagoaga’s daughter. According to historian Juan Javier Pescador: “**Aldaco’s** influence and Basque network extended from northern Spain to the Caribbean islands, New Spain, Central America, and northern New Spain. Basque families such as the **Vildosola**, **Ugarte**, **Ansa**, and **Urquidi**, among others, who controlled the trade networks and governmental appointments in Sonora, Durango, Chihuahua, New Mexico, and Coahuila, were also deeply connected with the **Fagoaga-Aldaco** firm throughout the eighteenth century. (Emphasis added)

As mentioned earlier, **Aldaco** is a founder of the College of the Vizcaina's. He also finances **Pedro de Anza**, Juan Bautista's godfather and **Jose de Laborda** in their huge silver strike in Taxco. Aldaco is an heir to the estate of **Francisco de Fagoaga** and when Fagoaga dies in 1770 he wills this estate to his son, Aldaco's brother-in-law, **Francisco Manuel de Fagoaga**. When Francisco Manuel dies in 1736, his widow assigns **Aldaco** to manage her estate. Aldaco then assigns management of the Royal Silver Bank and *Casa Mercantil de los Fagoaga* to Basque **Ambrosio de Meave**. Meave then has complete control over Mexico's silver and is, according to Donald Garate, "...probably the single most financially powerful person in all of Nueva España in Anza's day." When Meave dies, Basques **Manuel Ramón de Goya**, **Antonio de Bassoco**, **Juan Jose de Echeveste** and **Francisco Xavier de Gamboa** administer his estate. Echeveste is the purchasing agent for Baja and Alta California and also controls the tobacco, playing card and gunpowder monopolies in Mexico along with **Francisco de Urbietta**. Echeveste is also the nephew of **Francisco de Echeveste**, mentioned earlier as a founder of the College of the Vizcaina's. Garate reports that the **Echevestes** and **Anzas** were intermarried in Spain and that the **Anzas**, **Aldacos** and **Fagoagas** came from villages only a few miles apart in the Basque Country and the families knew each other before anyone left Spain for the New World. Many of these influential men are members of the **Confraternity of Our Lady of Aránzazu**.

As Garate has shown, due to Anza's Basque heritage and connections, he had a substantial edge over anyone else trying to obtain financing and political backing for the establishment of the route into Alta California and the settling of Monterey.



Portrait of Juan Bautista de Anza II

At the time of Anza's first expedition, Alta California's Spanish settlements consists of two small military posts; El Presidio Real de San Diego and El Presidio Real de San Carlos de Monterey, plus five missions; San Diego de Alcalá, San Carlos Borromeo de Carmelo, San Antonio de Padua, San Gabriel Arcángel and San Luis Obispo de Tolosa. Basques are in charge of three of these missions: **Gregorio Amurrio** at San Diego, **Fermín Francisco de Lasuén** at San Gabriel and **Juan Prestamero** at San Luis Obispo.

In addition, **José Antonio de Murguía** is a priest at Carmel and **Pablo de Mugartegi** is a priest at San Luis Obispo. At the time there are less than 100 Europeans in all of Alta California.

On his first exploratory trip, Anza leaves Tubac on January 9, 1774 with a small party of soldiers, mule packers, two friars, a few assorted tradesmen and Sebastian Tarabal, a Baja Indian who had just walked to Sonora from Mission San Gabriel, Alta California. The group starts out across the desert headed for California. It is a difficult experience and in one instance the group wanders through and around sand dunes for almost a month. Eventually, the 25 or so remaining members of the party (Anza had sent several back towards Sonora during the time in the dunes) arrive at Mission San Gabriel on March 22, 74 days after leaving Tubac.

After he visits Monterey, Anza returns to Tubac on May 26, 1774. He had covered more than 2,000 miles on the round trip. He immediately begins making plans for another colonizing expedition and a return to Monterey.

1774- **Bernardo de Urrea** is captain at Altar presidio and helps replace some of the worn horses for **Anza** on his trek west.

1774-1775- **Julián de Arriaga**, Minister of the Indies, sends six new officials to the port of San Blas, Mexico. Three are Basque, **Bruno de Hezeta y Dudagoitia**, from Bilbao, **Juan Francisco la Bodega y Quadra**, born in Peru and **Ignacio de Arteaga**. In 1775, **Hezeta** and **Bodega** sail from San Blas to Alaska establishing the northernmost claim of sovereignty for Spain. Bodega Bay north of San Francisco is named on this expedition and Hezeta discovers the mouth of the Columbia River. Again, the intent of this expedition is to slow or stop the English and Russians' advance on California. (**Hezeta** joined the Spanish navy at age 14 and, later in his career he captained a Manila galleon between the Philippines and Mexico. He then returned to Spain and fought in naval battles against the French and British.)

As a result of their privileged economic positions, of some of the Basques in Nueva España began forming ranks of nobility as in no other area of the New World. Among these are the **Castañizas**, the **Bassocos**, the **Villaurrutias**, the **Iturbides** and the **Fagoagas**. Others are: **Miguel de Berrio y Saldivar**, **Francisco José de Landeta y Urtuzuastegui**, **Pedro de Garrastegui y Oleaga**, **Francisco Javier Vasconcelos Berruecos y Cuelleno**, **Vincente Manuel de Sardaneta y Lagazpi** and **Rodrigo de Vivero y Aberrucia**.

1775- Fray **Antonio de Arriquibar** serves at mission Tumacácori until 1780. During that time another Basque priest, **Joaquín Antonio Belarde**, aids his ministry.

1775- Padres **Fermín Francisco de Lasuén**, **Gregorio Amurrio** and another Basque, **Pablo de Mugartegui**, found the original mission San Juan Capistrano. In addition, between 1786 and 1798 **Lasuén** founds nine additional California Missions. Noted California historian Hubert H. Bancroft praises Lasuén as, "First among the California

prelates...a friar who rose above his environment and lived many years in advance of his time.”

Between Serra’s first voyage in 1769 and the secularization of the missions in 1834, a total of 128 friars serve the Alta California missions. Twenty-eight of these are Basque: **Marcos Amestoy, Gregorio Amurrio, Arreñaza, José Arroíta, Josef Barona, José Antonio Calazada, Domingo Carranza, Tomás Esténaga, Francisco González de Ibarra, Domingo de Iturrate, Martín de Landaeta, Lasuén, Marcelino Marquinez, José Manuel de Martiarena, Pablo de Mugartegui, José Antonio de Murguia, Matías Antonio de Noriega, Prestamero, Andrés Quintana, Saizar de Vitoria, Juan Norberto de Santiago, Vincente Francisco de Sarria, Faustino Solá, Román Fernandez de Ulibarri, Francisco Xavier Uría, José Antonio de Uría, José Antonio de Urresti, José Maria de Zalvidea.**

1775-1776- Governor **Bucareli y Ursua** requests that **Anza** and **Juan José Echeveste**, mentioned earlier as part of the Basque network in Mexico City, give him an estimate regarding a colonization trip to California. Echeveste develops the entire list of needed supplies “from shoes to hair ribbons” and the total costs. Anza then asks Bucarelli y Ursua to appoint Basque **Miguel Gregorio de Echarri**, mentioned before as **Elizalde’s** supply officer, as his supply officer. The first officer and field soldier chosen by Anza’s to accompany him on the expedition is **José Joaquín Moraga**. Moraga is Basque and Anza praises his “greater intelligence and his ability to write.” When chosen by Anza, Moraga is a Lieutenant at Fronteras and has served in the army for eighteen years. The Apache had killed his father—a frontier soldier, as they had Anza’s father.

With these details completed, **Anza** leads a much larger second expedition on a 6-month trek from October 1775 to March 1776 from Tubac, Sonora to Monterey, Alta California. It involves 300 men, women and children plus 1,000 animals. Because of births along the way, more people arrive in Monterey than left Tubac. During the trek he visits the sites of what will become the cities of Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, San Jose and San Francisco.

The livestock Anza he brings to Alta California enable the missions to be self-supporting and initiate the large herds of the Rancho Era. At the request of missionaries, he also brings the first domesticated cats to California (two each for San Diego and San Gabriel) for the control of mice. Historian Herbert E. Bolton says this of Anza: **“His performance of the strenuous tasks to which he was assigned revealed him in his true proportions—a man of heroic qualities, tough as oak, and silent as the desert from which he sprang.”** (Emphasis added.)

1776- On March 28, **Anza**, his lieutenant **Moraga**, his chaplain Pedro Font and 17 soldiers reach San Francisco Bay. They are the first Europeans to stand on the San Francisco side of what we now call the Golden Gate. Moraga is credited with the founding of San Francisco as he builds the presidio there and aids with the construction of the mission. He is the first commandant of the San Francisco presidio.

1776- On August 18 the Spanish ship *San Carlos* is first to sail into San Francisco Bay and put to anchor. Its pilot is **Juan Bautista Aguirre** and the ship makes a reconnaissance of the harbor.

Thus, at least three of the major settlement excursions from Mexico into what will become the US are Basque financed and/or led: **Oñate** into New Mexico, Azlor into Texas with **Urdiñola** family money and **Anza** into California.

1776- Father **Juan Bautista Beldarrain**, who had briefly served during this year at Tumacácori, begins the reconstruction of Mission San Xavier del Bac with 7,000 pesos (more than 20 years of a missionary's salary) borrowed from a wealthy businessman. Beldarrain dies in 1790 with the church unfinished and undecorated. Father Juan Bautista Llorens oversees its completion by the year 1797. It is now one of the most famous and most photographed missions in the Southwest.

1777- In November, **José Joaquín Moraga**, **Anza's** former lieutenant, is directed by governor **Bucareli y Ursua** to lead a group of settlers to the area of present day San José, California to settle the first town in California. Known as *El Pueblo de San José de Guadalupe* its settlers are to supply food crops to the presidios of San Francisco and Monterey. (When Anza returned to Tubac in 1776, Moraga remained in California. Born in 1745 at Guevavi, Arizona, Moraga dies in San Francisco in 1785.)

1777- **Anza II** is made commander of all troops in Sonora and Governor of New Mexico in hopes of taking care of the Comanche "problem." At age 42 he leads an expedition of 600 men and 1,500 horses across New Mexico and Colorado to engage Chief Cuerno Verde and his Comanche. Near present day Rye, Colorado, he corners the chief and kills him and several other leaders and precipitates the Pecos Peace Treaty. He sends the chief's unique headdress to the viceroy in Mexico City as proof of his accomplishment. The viceroy forwards it to the Vatican.

Also in 1777, **Anza** leads an expedition into Hopi Country to try and save that people who are dying as a result of a long drought.

1777- **Juan de Ugalde**, mentioned before and now a Colonel, is sent back to the New World as governor of San Francisco de Coahuila in northern New Spain. His main focus is to protect Coahuila from Lipan and Mescalero Apaches. From May 3, 1779 and March 9, 1783 Ugalde conducts four campaigns against the Apaches in northern Coahuila and the Big Bend and Pecos River regions of Texas.

1777- The general overseer of Peru is **José Antonio de Arreche**.

1778- Some frontier soldiers also raise livestock to supplement their income by feeding their outpost. An example is militiaman at Laredo, **José María Elizondo** who lists two hundred cattle and over three thousand sheep, goats and other livestock in his possession.

1778- Tedoro de Croix, commanding General of the Provincias Internas, holds his first Council of War at Monclova to realign and reinforce the frontier presidios. Of the twelve military experts in attendance, at least three are Basque: **Jacobo Ugarte y Loyola, Juan de Ugalde** and **Diego de Borica**.

1779- In Croix's third Council of War, at least half the participants are Basques: **Fermín de Mendinueta, Juan Bautista de Anza** and **Jacobo Ugarte y Loyola**.

1779- **José Antonio Vildósola** returns to Terrenate as commander and Basque **Pedro de Allande** is placed in charge of the Tucson presidio. Allande builds most of the presidio at his own expense. He places the heads of several slain Apache on the battlements of one of the walls.

1779- Captains **Ignacio de Arteaga** and **Juan Francisco la Bodega y Quadra** and their pilot, **Juan Bautista de Aguirre**, sail from San Blas, Mexico to the Kenai Peninsula in Alaska and claim it for Spain.

1779- **Anza II** leads a successful expedition finding a route between Santa Fe, New Mexico, and Arizpe, Sonora, the capitol of the *Privincias Internas*.

1780- Frigate Captain **Juan Francisco la Bodega y Quadra**, mentioned previously, leaves Mexico for Havana to fight the British in the Caribbean.

1780- Padre Francisco Tomás Hermenegildo Garces, who had accompanied both of **Anza's** expeditions into California, and Basque Padre **Antonio Barreneche**, are directed to build mission *Purísima Concepcion* at Fort Yuma. On July 19, 1781 after an Indian attack the previous day, the two friars seek shelter on the California side of the Colorado River. Yuma Indians find them and club them both to death. Father Garces and Father **Barreneche** become the second and third missionaries martyred in California.

1780- The mayor of Lima is **Francisco de Ocharan y Mollinedo**.

1780- The commissioner of Alamos, Pimería Alta is **Juan Agustine de Iriarte** and the commissioner of Sinaloa is **Agustín Antonio de Norsagaray**.

1780- Bernardo Gálvez, along with **José de Ezpeleta**, force the surrender of British troops at Fort Charolette at Mobile, now in Alabama. Ezpeleta remains to defend Mobile.

1781-1782- Governor **Juan de Ugalde** of Coahuila carries out extensive campaigns against the Apache in northern Coahuila and the lower Pecos region of Texas. The campaign is unsuccessful as in June of 1784 the Indians kill forty-six people and steal six hundred horses and mules. However, Ugalde is not finished fighting the Apache.

1782- **Juan Pantoja y Arriaza**, pilot of *La Princesa*, makes the first charts of San Diego Bay.

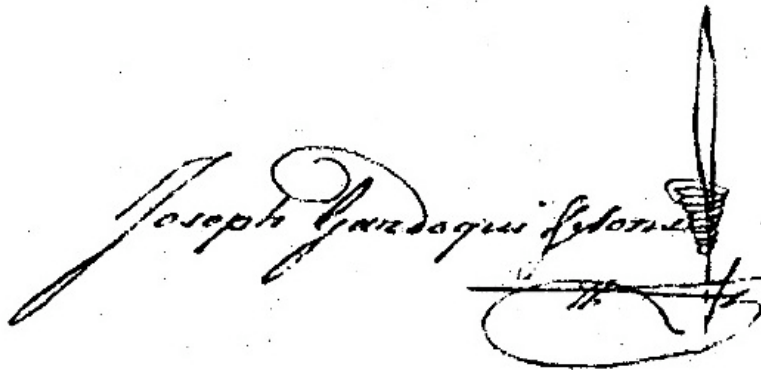
1782- **Manuel de Urquidi** is given a five year contract to provision San Eleazario presidio and later, in 1783, Santa Fe as well.

1783- Of the six merchants listed by the Merchants Guild of Chihuahua to supply the military on the Sonoran frontier, five are Basque: **Francisco Guizarnótegui, Joaquín de Amezqueta, Joseph Antonio de Yribarren, Manuel de Urquidi** and **Joaquín de Ugarte**.

1783- **Simón Bolívar**, *El Libertador*, is born in Caracas, Venezuela, to a wealthy Basque family from Bizkaia. Bolívar becomes the father of Latin American independence as he frees from Spanish rule the area of Latin America that will become Colombia, Ecuador, Panama, Venezuela and part of Peru. The country of Bolivia is named for him. He is the subject of numerous books. (In 2004, Bolívar's set of flintlock pistols sets an auction record for firearms when they are sold for over one million dollars.)

Basques immigrate to South America by the thousands. Their social, economic, religious and governmental contributions were and are monumental. The University of Nevada has published an extensive book by **José Manuel Azcona Pastor** dealing with this influx. It is titled "*Possible Paradises--Basque Emigration to Latin America.*"

1783-1799- Father **Francisco Yturralde** completes mission San Pedro y San Pablo de Tubutama in the northern Sonoran desert.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joseph Gardoqui y Arriquirar". To the right of the signature, a quill pen is depicted, with its tip resting on the final flourish of the signature.

Signature for **Joseph Gardoqui and Sons** with **Diego Gardoqui's** rubric

1785- **Diego Gardoqui** comes to the new country of the United States as the first Spanish ambassador to America. Born **Diego María de Gardoqui y Arriquirar** he is the head of the successful commercial house of **Joseph Gardoqui** and Sons in Bilbao with business connections to the American colonies. During the Revolutionary War with Great Britain he aids American privateers such as John Paul Jones as they cruise European waters capturing ships of various registry. In Spain, Gardoqui sells the cargo the Americans seize and helps refit the ships as warships for the Colonists. He obtains loans for the US and also sends needed war materials and supplies to the colonies. In addition, Gardoqui sends clothes and blankets to George Washington during his ordeal at Valley Forge. While he always works with the best interests of Spain in mind, he is a true

ally to the Americans when they have few other friends in Europe. He and John Jay, the first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, work out a treaty dealing with trade access along the Mississippi River. However, congress does not ratify the treaty.

Gardoqui also supplied his good friend George Washington with a prized royal Spanish stud work-donkey so Washington could breed his own mares and produce work mules. Washington named the donkey “Royal Gift.” This became the beginning of the U.S. mule industry. A statue honoring Gardoqui stands in Philadelphia and his portrait hangs in the Palace of Governors in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

1785- The heavy Basque presence in Mexico is demonstrated in Patzcuaro, Mohican. Some of the Basques there are public officials while others are mining operators or merchants trading with the Orient via Acapulco. The city organization of Amigos del Pails has 16 Basque members and in 1787 nine out of the ten city councilmen are Basques. In addition, at the same time, the merchant guild of Chihuahua is composed almost completely of Basques.

1786- Fray **Lausén** founds Mission Santa Barbara in Alta California.

1786- **Juan Bautista de Anza II** orchestrates the Pecos Peace Treaty with the Comanche which is the longest lasting peace treaty ever signed by the Comanche and any government of Spain, Mexico or the U.S. An important element of the treaty was the promise of fair trade at Taos where New Mexican traders often cheated the Comanche. Anza went on to lay the foundation for an alliance with the Navajo.

1786- **Anza II** asks to be released as governor of New Mexico.

1786- **Faustino de Elhuyart** is named director general of the Tribunal of Aztec Mining covering all of Mexico.

1786- **Felipe Antonio de Goicoechea** is named *Comandante* of the Royal Presidio of Santa Bárbara in Alta California. For two years he leads the construction of the entire complex, some of which may still be visited just off State Street in downtown Santa Barbara today. He is the first of at least six Basque *Comandantes* of the Santa Bárbara presidio. The others are: **José Dario Arguello**, **José de la Guerra y Noriega** (twice), **Gabriel Moraga**, **José Joaquin Maitorena** and **Juan María Ibarra**.

1786- Indian fighter **Juan de Ugalde**, mentioned previously, is promoted to commander of arms of the Provincias Internas with authority over Coahuila, Nuevo León, Nuevo Santander and Texas.

1787- **Ugalde** is made commanding general of the same area mentioned above.

1787- Fray **Lasuén** founds Mission La Purísima Concepción in Alta California.

1787- **Anza II** is made Commander of Buenaventura Presidio (formally Fronteras.)

1787- **Anza II** sends Don **Manuel de Echeagaray**, captain of the Presidio of Santa Cruz, New Mexico, into the Mogollón Mountains to engage the Apache. The campaign is extremely successful. (Anza had a deep respect for the fighting ability of the Apache.)

1787- Fray **Pedro de Arriquibar** is the last Franciscan missionary at the original Tubac garrison.

1787- **Francisco Guizarnótegui** receives a five-year contract to be the sole supplier for all the military companies of Nueva Vizcaya and New Mexico.

1787- **Juan Bautista Elguezábal** is captain of San Carlos presidio.

1787- In March, eight bands of Mescalero Apache gather at El Norte presidio to accept a peace proposal. Afterwards, several bands move from the presidial reservation into an area of Coahuila patrolled by Colonel **Juan de Ugalde** and his troops. He is unaware of the truce and attacks one of the bands. Even after he learns of the pact, he attacks two additional bands. Ugalde refuses to observe the end of hostilities or to release those he takes prisoner.

1787- Spaniards are offered rewards for pairs of Apache ears. By the 1790's it is common to ship Apache prisoners, even women and children, from New Spain to Havana. They are bound and imprisoned en route. Being exposed to new diseases, most die before they reach the island. Those who do survive usually spend the rest of their lives as slaves.

1787- The minister of the Indies is the experienced and able **Jacobo de Ugarte y Loyola**. Ugarte begins bringing peace and stability in the borderlands with the various Apache bands. It is the turning point in the Apache-Spanish relations

1788- **Anza II** is commander of the Tucson Presidio. On December 19, while visiting his home in Arizpe, he dies suddenly at the age of 52. He is buried in the side chapel of the cathedral of *Nuestra Señora de Loreto* at Arizpe, Sonora.

1789- The justice of the High Court of Caracas is **José Bernardo de Asteguieta y Díaz de Sarralde**.

1789- **Juan de Ugalde** launches a major campaign against the Apache in West Texas.

1790- **Ugalde** defeats a group of more than 300 Lipan and Mescalero Apache at Arroyo de la Soledad, the present day Sabinal River Canyon. This effectively breaks the back of Apache resistance in Texas. In commemoration of this victory the battlefield is named **Cañon de Ugalde** and the city and county of **Uvalde**, Texas take their names from commander Ugalde. In 1790 Ugalde is relieved of his command due to poor treatment of the Mescalero. He is ordered back to Spain where he is promoted to field marshal in 1797 and to lieutenant general in 1810 and awarded the Gran Cruz de San Hermenegildo in 1815. He dies in Cádiz in 1816 at the age of 87.



Don Miguel José de Azanza

1789-1790- **Miguel José de Azanza**, from Acoiz, Nafarroa, is Viceroy of New Spain.

1790- According to William A. Douglass, during this year in California history, Basques occupy many key posts in the Church and government. **Pablo de Mugartegui** is the director and chief of the California missions serving from Mexico City. **Jacobo Ugarte y Loyola** is commander of the Internal Provinces, which includes California. The lieutenant governor of both Californias is **José Joaquín Arrillaga**. The commander of the port city of San Blas, Mexico, through which California is supplied is **Juan Francisco la Bodega y Quadra** and the official of Tepic, who serves the Franciscans as the purchasing agent for the missions is **Esteban Lazcano**.

1791- **José Ygnacio Moraga** is commander of the Tucson Presidio. His younger brother, **José Joaquín Moraga** is **Anza II's** lieutenant and is credited with founding San Francisco and San José.

1791- **Juan de Pagazaurtundúa** is a military engineer assigned to the Sonoran frontier.

1791- Fray **Lasuén** founds Missions Santa Cruz and Nuestra Señora de la Soledad in Alta California.

1792- By this time, Basques have been in the New World for over three hundred years.

1792- British negotiator George Vancouver and Spanish negotiator **Juan Francisco de Bodega y Quadra** begin discussions regarding the west coast of North America, its boundaries and accessibility by each country.

1794- Among the Basques stationed at the Tucson Presidio are officers **Mariano Urrea**, **Juan Felipe Beldarrain**, **José María Sosa**, **Francisco Usarraga** and cadets **José Romero de Urrea** and **Bernardo de Urrea**.

1795 to 1810- In Valladolid, Michoacán, led by **Juan Basagoiti**, there are over 200 Basques involved in government, commerce, ranching, mining and sugar production. In Morelos and Cuernavaca, Basques own all the sugar factories.

1795- **Manuel de Echeagaray** is promoted to military commandant of Sonora.

1796- Lieutenant **Mariano Urrea** marries Gertrudis Elías González in Arizpe. Both are from pioneering Sonoran military families. In 1796, Basque padre **Pedro Arriquibar** baptizes their first son.

1796- The first governor of Tennessee, **John Sevier**, is Basque. Born in Rockingham County, Virginia, to a French Huguenot family who originally spelled their name “**Xavier**.”

1797- President of the Pimería Alta missions is Fray **Francisco Yturralde**, missionary at Tubutama.

1797- **Juan Bautista Elguézabal** is appointed interim governor of Texas. He is acting governor when Louisiana is sold to the United States and must handle hundreds of petitions of immigrants from Louisiana requesting to relocate in Texas. When **José Irigoyen** is appointed the next governor, he never comes to Texas. Elguézabal then holds the office until he dies in 1805 in San Antonio.

1797- Fray **Lasuén** founds Missions San José, San Juan Bautista, San Miguel de Arcángel and San Fernando Rey de España in Alta California.

1797- **José de Urrea** is born at the presidio of Tucson. He is the great-grandson of **Bernado de Urrea**, a key figure in the naming of Arizona and **Juan Bautista de Anza’s** deputy *justicia mayor*.

1798- Fray **Lasuén** founds Mission San Luis Rey de Francia in Alta California.

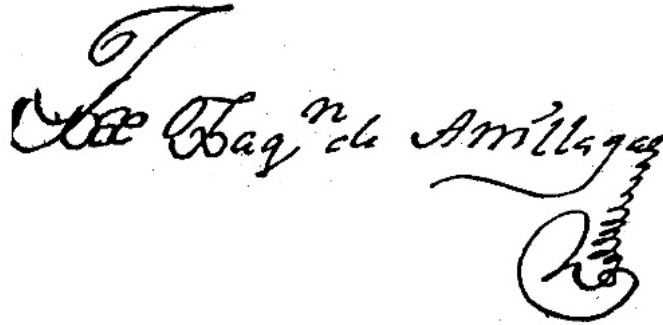
1800- Before the Louisiana Purchase, the last Spanish Governor of Louisiana is **Juan Manuel de Salcedo**, born in Bilbao, Bizkaia.

1800- **José Retegui** comes to Mexico to work in the Fresnillo silver mines. He becomes one of the wealthiest men in the region.

1803- Army surgeon Dr. **Cristóbal María Larrañaga**, assigned to Santa Fe, introduces smallpox vaccine to New Mexico as a part of the Spanish government’s Royal Expedition to take vaccinations to all the colonies.

1803- The last governor of Louisiana while under French rule is **Pierre Clement**, Baron de Laussat, born in Pau, Nafarroa. The first historian of Louisiana is **Charles De Gayarre**.

During the last 30 years of Spanish rule in Alta California (present day California) three of the governors are native Basques. They are **José Joaquin de Arrillaga**, **Diego de Borica Retegui** and **Pablo Vincente de Solá**.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "José Joaquín de Arrillaga". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

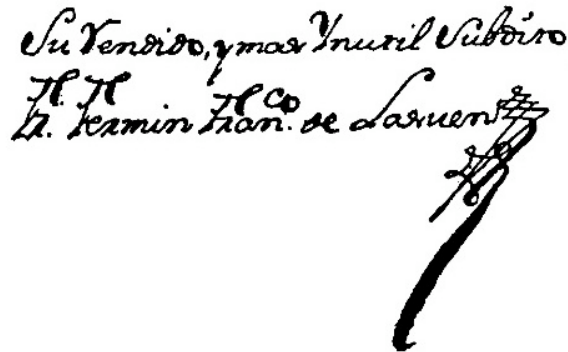
José Joaquín de Arrillaga

José Arrillaga, a professional soldier from Aya, Gipuzkoa, is governor of both Baja and Alta California from 1792 to 1794 and from 1800 to 1804. He is governor of Alta California again from 1804 until 1814 when he dies at the mission of Soledad. He is called "Papa Arrillaga" because he is present at every baptism or wedding in California upper-class society.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Diego de Borica". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

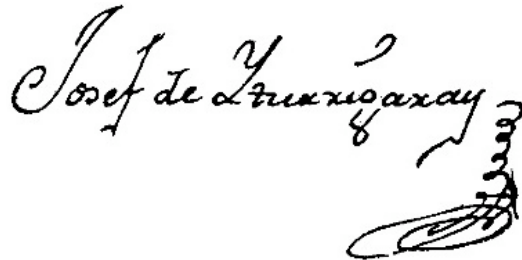
Diego de Borica

Diego de Borica y Retegui, from Vitoria, Alaba, is in charge of the Presidios of Chihuahua before becoming governor of Alta California from 1794-1799. Borica is also a soldier and had served as a Lieutenant Colonel under previously mentioned General **Jacobo de Ugarte y Loyola**, fighting Apache tribes along the northern Mexican frontier in 1787. Borica is a wealthy man and is married to Basque, **Maria Magdalena de Urquidi**, who is a direct descendent of one of the founders of Durango, Mexico. Borica's health forces him to retire in 1799. He dies in Durango in 1800.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Su Venido, y mas Ynutil Vubido". Below this, there is a smaller signature that reads "H. H. L. Fermín Fran. de Lasuén". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

Father Fermín Francisco de Lasuén

During the time **Arrillaga** and **Borica** are the Governors of Alta California, their close friend, **Fermín Francisco de Lasuén**, also from Vitoria, is President of the Alta California missions (1785 to 1803.)

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "José de Iturrigaray". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background. The letters are fluid and connected, with a prominent flourish at the end.

José Joaquín Vicente de Iturrigaray y Aróstegui

1803- **Iturrigaray y Aróstegui** is made Viceroy of New Spain. He is married to **María Inés de Jáuregui y Arístegui** and rules until 1808 when he is deposed by political activists and returned to Spain.

1804- Under the directions of governor **José Arrillaga**, **Gabriel Moraga**, son of **José Joaquín Moraga** the founder of San Francisco and San José, becomes the first European to explore the central valley of California. He is among the best traveled and most geographically knowledgeable of all the early *Californios*. He leads more than forty expeditions into the central valley from 1804 to 1817. He discovers and names most of the rivers and landmarks in the valley including the valley itself, Pacheco Pass, the Merced, San Joaquín, Tuolumne, Stanislaus, Calaveras, Kings and Mokelumne Rivers. He also names the areas later to become Sacramento and Modesto. According to some historians, he names the San Joaquín River and the San Joaquín Valley after his father. During these explorations, historian Charles Edward Chapman suggests Moraga may have also been the discoverer of Nevada.

1806- Governor **Arrillaga** also orders **José Joaquín Maitorena** to explore the interior of California.

Jesuit Order founders **St. Ignatius** from Loyola, Gipuzkoa, and **St. Francis** from Javier, Nafarroa, are both Basques.

1806-The governor of Baja California is **Felipe Antonio de Goycochea**, former *Comandante* of Santa Bárbara.

1808- **Pedro de Garibay** replaces **Iturrigaray y Aróstegui** as Viceroy of Mexico. He is a handpicked puppet of the political activists who have taken over the government and is a senile octogenarian and an ineffective leader.

1809- Fathers **Santiago Usuastegui** and **Saturnino Arizeta** complete mission La Purísima Concepción de Caborca in the northern Sonoran Desert.

1809- Friar **Míquel Zugastegui**, who is part of the Independence movement in Mexico, dies in prison after his capture by the Spanish. He is considered a Martyr of Mexican Independence.

1810- **Miguel Ramos Arizpe** is Coahuila's delegate to the audiencia of Guadalajara.

1811- Rancher and retired Lieutenant Colonel **Ignacio Elizondo** helps quell an early attempt to overthrow Spanish control of Texas called the Hidalgo Revolt.

1811- Don **José Agustíne Yndajauregui** is the teacher at Parral.

1813- On August 18, near the Medina River in Texas, a military action involving two Spanish armies numbering 1,600 troops is led by Joaquín Arredondo and **Ignacio Elizondo** against an army of 3,200 men, mostly Americans, rebelling against Spain. This rebel army is known as the Republican Army of the North. The Spanish armies crush the rebels in four hours killing 1,300 men, including the wounded prisoners. Among the other Basque officers in the two Spanish armies are: Commander of the infantry, **Antonio Elosua**; captain **Vincente Arreola**, Captain **Antonio Zárate**, second lieutenant **José Ybarra**, commander **Francisco Arizmendi**; and cavalry officers **Manuel Zozaya**, **Miguel Serrano**, **Domingo Ugartechea** and future interim governor of Texas, **Juan José Elguezabal**. The 1,300 rebels killed are much more than the total number of Texans that will be killed in the entire Texas Revolution, twenty-three years later in 1836.

1813- Don **Bernardo Apeyta**, a wealthy and influential New Mexican landowner and trader builds the chapel of *El Santuario de las Esquipulas* in Chimayo, New Mexico. It is one of the most sacred pilgrimage sites in the North American Southwest and is still known locally as the "Our Lady of America."

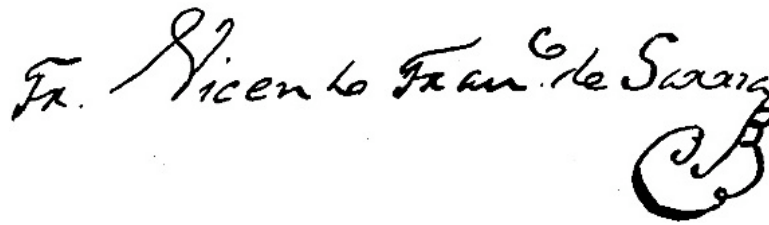
1816- **Juan José Ruiz de Apodaca y Eliza**, from Araba is Viceroy of Mexico.

1817- **Gregorio Egurrola** is recognized for his lengthy military service at the Royal Presidio of San Agustín del Tucson in what is now Arizona.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Pablo Vincente de Solá". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P" and a decorative flourish at the end.

Pablo Vincente de Solá

1815 to 1822- **Pablo Vincente de Solá**, born in Mondragon, Gipuzkoa, is the last Spanish governor of Alta California. He, like governor **Borica**, is also a Lieutenant Colonel and is appointed governor after **José Arrillaga** dies. Solá founds the first primary schools in California. He has a brother, **Faustino**, who serves as a Franciscan missionary in Alta California from 1786 to 1790.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fr. Vicente Francisco de Sarria". The signature is written in dark ink and includes a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Vincente Francisco de Sarria

During **Solá's** term, the President of the missions in Alta California is fellow Basque **Vincente Sarria**.

1817- **Sarria** founds mission San Rafael Arcángel 20 miles north of San Francisco. He is also credited with the "first original contribution ever offered by a resident of California in the field of medicine," an 1830 paper on caesarian section.

1821-**Agustín de Itúrbide** proclaims Mexico independent from Spain and names himself as Emperor of Mexico. He is born **Agustín Cosme Damian de Itúrbide y Aramburu** of Basque parents in Valladolid, (now Morelia, Michoacán) Mexico, in 1783. (His wife is **Doña Maria Josepha de Arregui y de Gastelu**.) Upon becoming "Emperor" he draws up a constitution known as the *Plan de Iguala* and enters Mexico City in September of 1821. He assumes the title of Agustín I on May 19, 1822.

On January 4, 1823 Itúrbide signs the first permit for the settlement of Anglo-Americans in Texas for Stephen F. Austin's colony. However, starting in December 1822, General Antonio López de Santa Anna begins a revolt against him. In March of 1823 Itúrbide abdicates and leaves Mexico and goes to Europe. Not knowing there is a death warrant facing him if he returns to Mexico, in a vain attempt to regain his throne, he lands at Sotola Marina on July 15, 1824. He is recognized, captured and executed at Padilla, Tamaulipas, on July 19. In 1838 his remains are moved to Mexico City and enshrined in the National Cathedral.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "José María de Echeandía". The signature is written in dark ink and includes a large, stylized flourish at the end.

José María de Echeandía

1825 to 1833- Mexican-born Basque, **José María de Echeandía** is governor of Alta California. The capital of Alta California is moved to San Diego because of his preferences.

1826- American trapper **Jedediah Strong Smith** enters California through the Mojave Desert. **José Echeandía**, governor of Alta California, is fearful that Smith's reports will open the area to the hated Americans. Echeandía orders Smith out of California via the same route through the desert. Smith defies Echeandía and, instead, turns north and enters the San Joaquin Valley, probably through Walker Pass. On February 5, 1827, Smith becomes the first American to visit the future site of Bakersfield, thanks in part to disobeying Echeandía's orders. (Ironically, according to biographer Maurice Sullivan, **Smith** is of Scottish, English and French-Basque ancestry. Smith's exploits are the subjects of numerous books.)

1829- **Santiago Ulibarrí**, a direct descendent of **Juan**, is *Alcalde* of the Spanish villages of Pecos and El Vado, New Mexico. More than 100 years before Santiago, Juan de Ulibarrí had been well accepted and respected by the Indians of the Pecos pueblo. As mentioned previously, Juan had also been *Alcalde* of the village of Pecos.

1829- **Lorenzo de Zavala** is granted a contract to colonize Texas.

1830- A "Board for the Development of the Californias" is formed. Of its twenty members, eight are Basque: **Pablo Vincente de Solá, José Ignacio Ormaechea, Manuel Ibarra, Francisco Cortina, Francisco Fagoaga, Isidro Icaza, Juan Francisco Azcarate** and **Tomás Zuria**.

1833- **José Antonio Laureano de Zubiría y Escalante** is Bishop of Durango.

1834- The Alta California Ranchos' tallow and hide business depends on a shipping route between California and Callao, Peru. Of the twelve major shipping companies, four are Basque owned. They are: The **Juan Francisco Izcue Company, the Aramburu Brothers, Urien and Company** and **Dalidou Larrabure and Company**.

1834- Premier Cuban cigar brand "**Por Larreñaga**" is introduced by **Ignacio Larreñaga** making it the oldest continuously produced Havana brand still in existence.

1834- **José de Urrea** is made colonel in the Mexican army by **Francisco Ellorriaga**.

1834- Captain **Juan José Elguézabal**, veteran of the Medina River battle, is commandant of the Presidio del Río Grande in Coahuila and, like his father **Juan Bautista Elguézabal** mentioned earlier, is also adjutant inspector of the presidios of Coahuila and Texas. On August 30 he is made interim governor of Texas.

1835- American colonists in Texas break away from Mexican rule and seize several towns and forts including the Alamo and the town of Goliad. Antonio López de Santa Anna heads for the Alamo and his subordinate **José de Urrea**, now a general, heads to Goliad. Urrea leads his troops to several victories on his way to Goliad and, upon reaching the town, forces a surrender of the Texas troops on March 19. Urrea takes over 400 prisoners and requests they be treated as prisoners of war. Santa Anna, his superior, insists they be executed. Urrea balks at this order but his command is again reminded by

Santa Anna that he is to take no prisoners. On March 27, 1835, more than 400 Texans are executed in a slaughter much greater than the one at the Alamo. (Urrea had left the area earlier on another action and did not take part in the killings. Santa Anna sent General José de la Portilla to see to the executions.) Urrea is never defeated in battle.

1835- **José Domingo Ugartechea** is Principal Commandant of Texas.

1837- In Louisiana, Basque inventor **Louis Jacques Mendé Daguerre** introduces his invention of the Daguerre-type camera to America. It is the first practical process of photography.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "J. Iturbide". The signature is elegant and fluid, with a large, decorative flourish at the end.

Joaquín de Iturbide

1840- **Joaquín de Iturbide** is Minister of Justice in Mexico.

1841- **Cesareo Lataillade**, born in St.-Jean-de-Luz, makes his first voyage to California. He settles in Santa Barbara and in 1845 marries **María Antonia de la Guerra y Noriega**, a daughter from one of California's most prominent families. In 1846 he is named vice-consul of Spain in Monterey and becomes French consul in 1849. In 1848, when gold is first discovered, he forms a supply company to the miners of Placer County and becomes one of California's wealthiest businessmen. Unfortunately, he dies accidentally shortly before 1850.

1842- **José de Urrea** assumes executive power of Sonora, which he holds until May 1844.

1846- **Urrea** fights against the United States in the Mexican War. He dies in 1849.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Manuel Micheltorena". The signature is highly stylized and decorative, with a large, prominent flourish at the end.

Manuel Micheltorena

1842 to 1845- **Manuel Micheltorena**, a Mexican-born Basque, is Governor of Alta California.

1842- By this time, Basques have been in the Americas for over three hundred and fifty years.

1844- **Julian Ursua** opens the Plaza Hotel in San Juan Bautista, Alta California. It is probably the earliest Basque hotel in North America.

1849- The basic mining technology used in the California gold rush and the Comstock Lode in Nevada was imported from Mexico. Included in this technology is the *arrastre*. This is a device where a mule or burro pulls a heavy block of granite around and around in a circular trough, also made of granite blocks. Ore is placed in the trough and the stone block being dragged around a center post grinds the ore into finer pieces so the gold can be retrieved and processed. Basque historians **Donald Garate** and **Joxe Mallea-Olaetxe** both believe that the term *arrastre* is derived from the Basque words *arri*, meaning “stone,” and *auste*, meaning “breaking or grinding action.” *Arrastres* may still be found in remote, abandoned mining areas throughout the west.

1850- **Pedro Altube** comes to California seeking gold. He raises cattle and sheep instead. (He is 6’8” tall and is called “Palo Alto” --tall pine-- by his *vaqueros*. It is said Palo Alto, California, where he had a ranch, is named for him.) He makes enough money to buy a herd of cattle and trails them to Nevada. In 1873 he founds the huge Spanish Ranch with his brother **Bernardo** and starts bringing Basque friends and relatives to the U.S. to help with his growing enterprises. These people then spread to every western state. Altube is known as the “Father of Basques in the West.”

According to historian Joxe Mallea-Olaetxe, other important early Basque ranchers in California and Nevada are **Jean Baptiste Garat**, **Jean Pierre Indart (Yndart)** and **John Arrambide**. The YP brand (for Pete Yndart) is believed to be the third oldest brand in the U.S. It is the only brand registered in the U.S. Patent Office and has been in use since 1852.

1863- **John Indart** and **Mary Erreca Indart** open what may be the first Basque boardinghouse in the U.S. at Sentinella Ranch (Santa Enella) between Fresno and Stockton.

1866- **Juan Miguel** and **Martina Aguirre** open what is probably the first actual *ostatu* (an *ostatu* is a Basque hotel, boardinghouse, restaurant, meeting place, etc.) in the US on Powell Street in San Francisco. The name of the hotel is not documented and is simply called “Aguirre’s.”

1878- **Doroteo Arango** is born near San Juan del Rio, Durango on June 5. He is the son of **Agustín Arango** and **María Micaela Arambula**. He becomes a bandit, a leading general in the Mexican Revolution and a provisional governor of the state of Chihuahua before he is assassinated in 1923. He is better known as **Francisco “Pancho” Villa**.

1880- **Félix Berenguer de Marquina** is Viceroy of Mexico.

1883- Captain **José María Zuloaga** battles the Apache at Laguna de la Ascensión near Janos.

1893- Faustino Mier Noriega and **Fernando Etcheverry** open the Iberia Hotel in Kern, now Bakersfield, California. (Faustino Mier is from Santander, Spain and comes to the U.S. to work for his uncle **Vincente Noriega** in Tulare, California and adopts his uncle's surname as his own.) In 1906 Faustino changes the name of the Iberia to the Noriega Hotel. Today, according to **Jeronima Echeverria**, the Noriega Hotel is the oldest *ostatu* in the West. It is the only establishment that still takes in Basque boarders and serves family-style meals at one seating.

1911- An interesting note related to Basque exploration. Hiram Bingham, a historian and assistant professor of Latin American History at Yale University, is credited with "discovering" the lost Inca city of Machu Picchu in South America on his 1911 Peruvian expedition. However, **Melchor Arteaga**, a Peruvian-Basque innkeeper, leads him to the site. When they arrive at the ruins they find the words "1902 **Agustin Lizarraga** is the discoverer of Machu Picchu" scratched on a rock. Lizarraga is a local Peruvian-Basque farmer who had actually located the famous "lost" city nine years previous to Bingham and Arteaga.

Finally, **Donald T. Garate** states in his paper *Basque Names, Nobility, and Ethnicity on the Spanish Frontier*, "Aside from the hundreds of soldiers, sailors, government and church officials who were prominent in the exploration, conquest, and settlement of not only Nueva España, but also of South and Central America, there are thousands of Basques to be found in village, mission, and presidio records. For example, Basque names common in Culiacán in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries are **Abiles, Aguirre, Albestrain, Amesqueta, Barrera, Beltrán, Castaños, Echave, Echevarría, Egurrola, Escobar, Espinosa, Gaviria, Ibarra, Ibarroa, Iturrioz, Lizarraga, Liziaga, Mendazona, Mendoza, Ochoa, Sala, Oztia, Tapia, Urrea, Zabala, and Zazuta**. In Arizpe, Sonora, in the eighteenth century one finds such names as **Amentia, Barcena, Bustamante, Mendibel, Moraga, Ochoa, Salazar, Subiate, Velarde, Velasco, and Zubia**. In the Altar Valley some of the prominent Basque names are **Gastelu, Gortari, Mendoza, Murrieta, Ochoa, Urias, Urrea, and Unzarraga**.

"Although one does not see many Basque names on the far reaches of the frontier at Guevavi and Tumacacori until after the building of the presidio at Tubac, Basques labeled as *españoles* or *gente de razón* suddenly were everywhere when the soldiers arrived. **Acuña, Aguirre, Albizu, Algorri, Amesqueta, Amurrio, Arbulo, Arriola, Belderrain, Bezerra, Bustamante, Castillo, Durán, Gamarra, Hurtado, Iguera, Iguerza, Irigoyen, Iturbe, Lagarra, Larralde, Mendiola, Mendoza, Munguia, Ochoa, Orozco, Pamplona, Salazar, Sarobe, Serrano, Urzanea, and Zuñiga** are a sampling.

"...one cannot look at obvious Basque place names on the frontier and think that some Castilian named them. Everyone is familiar with **Nueva Vizcaya** and **Durango**, but consider **Arizpe, Ures, Cananea, and Horcasitas**, towns along the Sonora and San Miguel River drainages in Sonora. All, with the exception of Ures, have their counterparts in *solares* and

villages in Viscaya. Ures, unless by some coincidence it has a meaning in the Pima or Opata language, refers to water in Basque, a rather obvious connection in a fertile river valley that is populated by hundreds of Basque descendants. Another intriguing name is the ancient royal mining town of **Basochuca** near Arizpe. Though it would appear to be an Indian name it means finches in Basque.

“Furthermore, Basque place names are certainly not unique to Sonora. Among examples elsewhere consider **Jaso**, **Velarde**, **Chavarría**, and **Goycoechea** in Chihuahua or the **Sierra de Arratia** between Culiacán and Durango. There are many other instances, but there is no need to belabor the point. Sailing to New Spain in large numbers, the Basques came early on and left a tremendous legacy in the places they settled.” (Emphasis added.)

As one can tell, even if the Basques were a minority in the New World, that certainly did not mean they were unimportant. Though large numbers of Basques came to *Nueva España*, it was a relatively small number compared to the other Spaniards and Europeans who also arrived. Those Basques who did come made gains far out of proportion to their numbers. Wherever they went they had the habit of joining together to form a small but opportunistic minority. Basques maintained and exploited their strong ethnic, cultural and linguistic ties to successfully help explore, settle and develop the Americas.

Hopefully, this overview has been enjoyable and interesting reading. It is doubtful that it will ever be finished, as it remains a work in progress. It is surprising how, when and where information turns up.

I would again like to express my appreciation to **Don Garate** for his encouragement, help and generosity towards this work and me; to **Joxe Mallea-Olaetxe** for his interest, encouragement and help; to retired Bakersfield College instructor **Sasha Honig** for getting me started on this project more than 35 years ago, for her recent help and, and for alerting me to the California Mission Studies Association, and to **John Ysursa** and **Steve Gamboa** for their encouragement. Through their efforts and those of the other scholars, historians and authors listed in the reference section, Basque history in the Americas is finally beginning to receive the recognition it deserve.



Oñate Family Crest

Appendix One

Among the Basques or men of Basque descent who governed Alta California (Present day California) under Spanish or Mexican rule were the following:

1792-1794 & 1800-1814 **José Joaquin de Arrillaga**--Built first fort in California at what is now Fort Point, San Francisco.

1794-1799 **Diego de Borica y Retegui**--Drew California boundary lines.

1815-1822 **Pablo Vincente de Solá**--Last Spanish and first Mexican period governor.

1825-1831 & 1832-1833 **José Maria de Echeandía**--First Mexican Republican Constitutional governor.

1842-1845 **Manuel Micheltorena**--Last governor sent from Mexico.

Appendix Two

Among the Basques or men of Basque descent who governed the other early Provinces of New Spain (Mexico) besides California were the following:

Baja California

1804-1805 **José Joaquín de Arillaga**

1806-1814 **Felipe de Goycochea**

Chiapas

1610-1616- **Gabriel de Loarte y Ovalle**

1617-1620 **Agustín García de Albornoz Legaspi**

1621-1627 **Gabriel de Ugarte y Ayala**

1666- **Pedro de Zavaleta**

1670- **Andrés de Ochoa Zárate**

1682- **José de Oruéta**

1683-1685 **Martínez de Urdaniz**

1720- **Carlos Vélez y Arriaga**

1738-1743 **Antonio Zuazua y Mújica**

1802-1807 **Manuel de Olazábal**

1817-1818 **Juan María de Ancheita**

Coahuila

1703-1705 **Matías de Aguirre**

1714 **Pedro Fermín de Echever y Subiza**

1727-1730 **Melchor de Media Villa y Azcona**

1751-1759 **Jacinto de Barrios y Jauregui**

1769-1777 **Jacobo de Ugarte y Loyola**

1777-1783 **Juan de Ugalde**

1798-1800 **José Irigoyen**

1805-1809 **José de Joaquín de Ugarte**

1820-1822 **Antonio Elosúa**

Florida

1527- **Pánfilo de Narváez**
1565-1574 **Pedro Menéndez de Avilés**
1603-1609 **Pedro de Ibarra**
1749-1752 **Melchor de Navarette**
1752-1755 **Fulgencio Garcia de Solís**

West Florida

1812-1813 & 1816 **Mauricio de Zuñiga**

Nueva Galicia (Guadalajara)

1743-1751 **Fermín de Echevers y Subiza**
1751-1760 **José de Basarte y Borán**
1776-1777 **Ruperto Vicente de Luyando**
1787-1791 **Antonio de Villaurrutia y Salcedo**
1791-1798 **Jacobo de Ugarte y Loyola**
1800-1804 **José Fernando de Abascal y Souza**

Nuevo León

1613-1614 **Agustín de Zavala**
1626-1664 **Martín de Zavala**
1667-1676 **Nicolás de Azcárraga**
1681 **Domingo de Videgaray y Sarza**
1681-1682 **Juan de Echeverría**
1683-? **Agustine de Echeverz y Subiza**
1698-1703 **Juan Francisco de Vergara y Mendoza**
1723-1725 **Juan José de Arriaga y Brambila**
1731-1740 **José Antonio Fernández de Jáuregui y Urrutia**
1772-1773 **Francisco de Echegaray**
1813 **Fernando de Uribe**
1785-1795 **Joaquín de Mier y Noriega**

Nuevo México (New Mexico)

1595-1607 **Juan de Oñate y Salazar**
1607-1609 **Cristóbal de Oñate y Tolosa Cortéz**
1618-1625 **Juan de Eulate**
1649-1652 **Hernando de Ugarte y La Concha**
1659-1660 **Bernardo López de Mendizábal**
1731-1736 **Gervasio Cruzat y Gongora**
1736-1738 **Henrique Olavide de Michelena**
1760-1762 **Manuel de Portillo y Urrisola**
1767-1777 **Pedro Fermin de Mendinueta**
1778-1788 **Juan Bautista de Anza II**

Nuevo Santander

1777-1779 **Francisco de Echegaray**
1781-1786 **Diego Lazaga**
1802-1804 **Francisco de Ixart**
1804-1811 **Manuel de Iturbe y Iraeta**
1819-1821 **José María Echeagaray**

Nueva Vizcaya

1563-1575 **Francisco Ibarra**
1603-1613 **Francisco de Urdiñola**
1689- **Pedro Martínez de Murguía y Ortíz de Guinea**
1698-1703 **Juan Bautista de Larrea Palomino y Solís**
1714-1720 **Juan Manuel de San Juan y Santa Cruz**
1720-1723 **Martín de Alday**
1728-1733 **Ignacio Francisco de Barrutia y Aeta Esenagucia**
1738-1743 **Juan Bautista de Belaunzarán y Zumeta**
1793-1796 **Francisco José de Urrutia Montoya**

Provincias Internas

1786-1790 **Jacobo Ugarte y Loyola** (General and Western)
1788-1791 **Juan de Ugalde** (Eastern)

Puebla

1812- **Santiago de Irissari**

San Luis Potosí

1809-1810 **José Ruíz de Aguirre**

Sinaloa and Sonora

1678(?) **Isidro de Atondo y Antillón**
1741-1748 **Augustín de Vidósola**
1842-1844 **José de Urrea**

Texas

1703-1705 **Mathias de Aguirre**
1712-1714 **Pedro Fermín de Echevers y Subisa**
1737-1738 **José Antonio Fernández de Jáuregui Urrutia**
1738-1741 **Prudencio de Orobio y Basterra**
1751-1759 **Jacinto de Barrios y Jáuregui**
1799-1805 **Juan Bautista Elguézabal**
1808-1813 **Manuel María de Salcedo**
1832-1833 **Juan Martín de Veramendi**
1833-1834 **Juan José de Vidauri y Villaseñor**
1834-1835 **Juan José Elguézabal**

Veracruz

1790-1794 **Pedro Fernández de Gorositza y Lorea**

1810-1812 **Carlos de Urrutia y Montoya**

Yucatán (Mérida)

1645-1648 **Esteban de Azcárraga y Veytias**

1672-1674 **Miguel Cordornio de Sola**

1699-1703 & 1706-1708- **Martín de Usúa y Arismendi Aguirre y Vizcondo**

1703-1706 **Álvaro de Rivaguda Enciso y Luyando**

1762-1763 **Antonio Ainz de Ureta**

1821- **Juan María Echéverri**

Zacatecas

1812-1814 **Santiago de Irisarri**

Appendix Three

Among the Basques or men of Basque descent who governed or ruled in the Caribbean, Central and South America up to 1900 were the following:

Argentina

1537-1541 & 1545-1556 **Domingo Martínez de Irala**

1565-1566 & 1567-1576 **Juan Ortiz de Zárate**

1576-1577 **Diego Ortiz de Zárate Mendieta**

1578-1583 **Juan de Garay**

1583-1584 **Rodrigo Ortiz de Zárate**

1593-1594 **Hernando de Zárate**

1618-1623 **Diego de Góngora y Elizalde**

1653-1660 **Pedro de Ruiz Baigorri**

1678-1682 **José de Garro Senei y Artola**

1712-1714 **Alonzo de Arce y Soria**

1745-1756 **José de Andonaequi y la Plaza**

1811-1812 **Manuel de Sarratea Altoguirre**

1816-1816 **Miguel de Irigoyen**

1852-1860 **Justo José de Urquiza y Garcia**

1895-1898 **José Evaristo de Uriburu y Alvarez de Arenales**

Chile

1554-1555, 1565-1566 & 1575-1580 **Rodrigo de Quiroga**

1580-1583 **Martín Ruiz de Gamboa**

1591-1598 **Martín García de Oñez y Loyola**

1618-1621 **Lope de Ulloa y Lemos**

1624-1629 **Francisco de Alava y Norueña**

1709-1716 **Juan Andrés de Ustáriz y Vertizberea**

1773-1780 **Agustín de Jáuregui y Aldecoa**

1810-1811 **Mateo de Toro y Zambrano y Ureta**

1814-1814 **Julián Uribe and Manuel Muñoz Urzúa**
1815-1815 **Mariano Osorio**
1823-1823 & 1826-1827 **Agustín Manuel de Eyzaguirre y Arechavala**
1871-1876 **Fedrico Marcos del Rosario Errázuriz Zañartu**
1876-1881 **Aníbal Pinto Garmendia**

Columbia (New Granada)

1545-1547 **Pedro de Ursúa**
1782-1788 **Juan Antonio Caballero y Góngora**
1830-1830 **Joaquín Mariano de Mosquera y Arboleda**
1830-1831 **Rafael José Urdaneta Faria**
1841-1845 **Pedro Alcántara Herrán Zaldúa**
1845-1849, 1861-1864 & 1866-1868 **Tomás Cipriano Ignacio Maria de Mosquera y Arboleda**
1855-1857 **Manuel Maria Mallarino Ibargüen**
1882-1882 **Francisco Javier Martínez de Zaldúa y de Racines**

Costa Rica

1574-1577 **Alonso de Anguciana y Gamboa**
1577-1590 **Diego de Artieda y Chirino**
1624-1630 **Juan de Echáuz**
1698-1704 **Francisco Serrano de Reina y Lazarde**
1739-1740 **Francisco de Olachea**
1750-1754 **Cristóbal Ignacio de Soría**
1822-1822 **Rafael de la Trinidad Barroeta y Castilla**

Cuba

1630-1634 **Juan Bitrián de Viamonte y Navarra**
1634-1639 **Francisco Riaño y Gamboa**
1685-1687 **Manuel de Murguía y Mena**
1766-1771 **Antonio Maria de Bucareli y Ursúa**
1785-1789 **José Manuel Ignacio Timoteo de Ezpeleta Galdeano Dicastillo y del Prado**
1782-1785 **Luis de Unzaga Amezaga**
1790-1796 **Luis de las Casas y Arragorri**
1817-1817 **Juan María Echéverri**
1838-1840 **Joaquín Ezpeleta y Enrile**
1854-1859 & 1874-1875 **José Guitérrez de la Concha y Irigoyen**
1862-1866 **Domingo Dulce Guerrero Garay y Sáez**
1866-1869 **Francisco Lersundi y Ormaechea y Guerrero Zambrano**
1869- **Domingo Dulce Guerrero Garay y Sáez**

Dominican Republic (Hispaniola)

1514-? **Juan de Zamudio**
1524-1528 & 1531-1533- **Alonso de Zuazo**
1560-1562 **Juan de Echagoyan**

1597-1600 **Diego de Osorio**
1603-1608 **Antonio de Osorio**
1627-1634 **Gabriel de Cháves y Osorio**
1636-1645 **Juan Bitrián de Viamonte y Navarra**
1714-1715 **Antonio Laudeche**
1759-1771 **Manuel de Azlór Urriéz**
1813-1818 **Carlos de Urrutia y Montoya**

Ecuador

1600-1608 **Miguel de Ibarra**
1615-1636 **Antonio de Morga Sánchez Garay y López de Garfinas**
1642-1644 **Juan de Lizárazu**
1652-1655 **Juan Morales de Aramburu**
1728-1736 **Dionisio de Alcedo Ugarte y Herrera**
1741-1741 **Francisco Miguel de Goyeneche**
1850-1850 **Antonio de Elizalde y La Mar**
1850-1851 **Diego Noboa y Arteta**
1869-1869 **Manuel de Ascásubi Y Matheu**
1875-1875 **José Javier Equiguren Ríofrío**
1883-1883 **Pedro Ignacio Lizarazaburu Borja**

El Salvador

1835-1836 **Francisco Gómez de Altamirano y de Elizondo**
1845-1846 & 1859 **Joaquín Eufasio Guzmán Ugalde**
1858-1860 **Miguel Santín del Castillo y Barroeta**

Guatemala

1634-1642 **Álvaro de Quiñónes y Osorio y Miranda**
1648-1681 **Lope de Sierra Osorio**
1681-1683 **Juan Miguel de Agurto y Álava**
1691-1694 **Francisco Lope de Ursino y Orbaneja**
1696-1700 **Gabriel Sánchez de Berrospe**
1704-1706 **José Osorio Espinosa de los Monteros**
1724-1733 **Pedro Antonio de Echevers y Subiza**
1783-1789 **José de Estachería**
1818- 1821 **Carlos de Urrutia y Montoya**
1823-1829 **Manuel José Arce y Fagoaga**
1838 **Pedro José Valenzuela Jáuregui**

Honduras

1526-1530 **Diego Lopez de Salcedo**
1563-1567 **Alonso Ortiz de Elgueta**
1660-1668 **Juan de Zuazo**
1827 **Jose Justo Milla Pineda Arriaga**
1827 **Miguel Eusebio Bustamonte Lardizábal**

Jamaica

1515-1523 **Francisco de Garay**
1526-1526 **Juan de Mendegurren**
1645-1646 **Sebastián Fernández de Gamboa**

Nicaragua

1552-1553 **Alonso Ortiz de Elgueta**
1553-1553 & 1556-1557 **Nicolás López de Urraga**
1558-1558 **Andrés López Moraga**
1625-1627 **Lázaro de Albizúa**
1673-1681 **Pablo de Loyola**
1705-1721 **Sebastián de Arancibia y Sasi**
1779-1783 **José de Estachería**
1824-1825 **Policarpo Irigoyen**
1851-1853 **José Laureano Pineda Ugarte**
1889-1891 **Roberto Sacasa Sarria**

Paraguay

1539-1542 & 1544-1556 **Doningo Martínez de Irala**
1556-1557 **Gonzalo de Mendoza**
1575-1576 **Juan Ortiz de Zárate**
1576 **Ortiz de Zárate Mendieta**
1576-1583 **Juan de Garay**
1636-1641 **Pedro de Lugo y Navarra**
1647-1649 **Diego de Escobar Osorio**
1649-1650 **Sebastián de León y Zárate**
1653-1656 **Cristóbal de Garay y Saavedra**
1692-1696 & 1705-1706 **Sebastián Félix de Mendiola**
1731 **Ignacio de Soroeta**
1731-1732 **Miguel de Garay**
1732-1733 **Antonio Ruíz de Arellano**
1735-1741 **Martín José de Echáuri**
1741-1750 **Marcos José de Larrázabal**
1811 **Vincente Ignacio Iturbe**
1877-1878 **Higinio Uriarte y García del Barrio**

Puerto Rico

1513-1515 **Cristóbal de Mendoza**
1614-1620 **Filipe de Beaumont y Navarra**
1650-1655 **Diego de Aguilera y Gamboa**
1661-1664 **Juan Pérez de Guzmán y Chagoyen**
1670-1674 **Gaspar de Arteaga y Aunoavidao**
1724-1731 **José Antonio de Mendizabal y Azcue**
1789-1792 **Miguel Antonio de Ustariz**
1820-1822 **Gonzalo de Arístegui y Herrera**

1844-1847 **Rafael de Arístegui y Vélez**
1852-1855 **Fernando de Norzágaray y Escudero**
1855-1857 **José de Lemery Ibarrola Ney y González**
1861-1862 **Rafael de Echagüe y Bermingham**
1865-1867 **José María Marchesi y Oleaga**

Peru

1776-1780 **Manuel de Guirior y Portal de Huarte y Edozaín**
1780-1784 **Agustín de Jáuregui y Aldeco**
1835-1836 **Felipe Santiago de Salaverry y del Solar**
1841-1842 & 1844-1845 **Manuel Menéndez y Gorozabel**
1843-1844 **Manuel Ignacio de Vivanco y Iturralde**
1851-1855 **José Rufino Echenique y Benavente**
1883-1885 & 1894-1895 **Andrés Avelino Cáceres Dorregaray**
1895-1895 **Manuel González de Candamo Iriarte**

Uruguay

1740-1740 **Domingo Sunton de Uriartu**
1740-1750 **Francisco de Gorriti**
1807-1809 **Francisco Javier Elío y Olondriz Robles y Echaide**
1835-1838 & 1843-1851 **Manuel Ceferino Oribe Y Viana**
1852-1852 & 1860-1864 **Bernardo Prudencio Berro y Larrañaga**
1852-1853 **Juan José Francisco Giró y Zufriategui**
1894-1897 **Juan Bautista Idiarte Borda Soumastre**

Venezuela

1546-1549 **Juan Pérez de Tolosa**
1589-1597 **Diego de Osorio**
1603-1606 **Francisco Mejía de Godoy**
1611-1616 **García Girón de Loaysa**
1732-1737 **Martín de Lardizábal y Elorza**
1749-1751 **Julián de Arriaga y Rivera**
1777-1782 **Luis Unzaga y Amezaga**
1799-1799 **Joaquín de Subillaga**
1809-1810 **Vicente Enparan y Orbe**
1812-1812 **Francisco Javier de Ustáriz y Mijares de Solorzano**
1817-1817 **José Joaquín Cortés de Madariaga**
1837-1839 **Carlos Valentín José de la Soledad Antonio del Sacramento Soublette y Jarez de Aristeguieta**

Appendix Four

The University of Nevada Press has published a history titled, *Basques In The Philippines*, 224 pages by Marciano R. de Borja. Among the Basques or men of Basque descent who were Governors-General in the Philippines are the following:

1565-1572 **Miguel Lopez de Legazpi**
1572-1575 **Guido de Lavezares**
1595-1596 **Antonio de Morga**
1684-1689 **Gabriel Curuzalaegui y Arriola**
1690-1701 **Fausto Cruzat y Góngora**
1701-1709 **Domingo Zabálburu y Echeverri**
1709-1715 **Martín de Ursúa y Arizmendi**
1745-1750 **Juan de Arechederra**
1754-1759 **Pedro Manuel de Arandía y Santisteban**
1759-1761 **Miguel Lino de Espeleta**
1762-1764 **Simón de Anda y Salazar**
1770-1776 **Simón de Anda y Salazar**
1778-1787 **José de Basco y Vargas**
1813-1816 **José de Gardoqui Jaraveitia**
1838-1841 **Luís Lardizabal y Montojo**
1841-1843 **Marcelino de Oraá Lecumberri**
1844-1849 **Narciso Clavería y Zaldúa**
1850-1853 **Antonio de Urbiztondo y Eguía**
1857-1860 **Fernando Norzagaray y Escudero**
1861-1862 **José Lémery e Ibarrola**
1862-1865 **Rafael de Echagüe y Berminghám**
1865-1866 **Juan de Lara e Irigoyen**

Appendix Five

Among the Basques or men of Basque descent who were Bishops in Mexico from 1530 to 1849 are the following:

1530-1548 **Juan de Zumárraga**
1539-1541 **Juan Arteaga y Avendaño**
1582-1590 **Domingo de Alzola**
1592-1603 **Andrés de Ubilla**
1629-1650 **Agustín de Ugarte y Sarabia**
1659-1671 **Juan Aguirre y Garozpe**
1696-1698 **Antonio de Arriaga y Agüero**
1722-1733 **Juan Antonio de Lardizabal y Elorza**
1729-1733 **Juan Ignacio de Castorena y Ursúa y Goyeneche**
1730-1747 **Juan Antonio de Vizarrón y Equiarreta**
1735-1756 **Martín de Elizacoechea**
1752-1763 **Juan José de Equiara y Eguren**
1768-1789 **Santiago José Hechavarría y Elguezúa**
1797-1827 **Pedro Agustín Estévez y Ugarte**

1815-1825 **Juan Francisco Castañaiza de Larrea y Gonzalez de Agüero**
 1817-1821 **José Ignacio de Arancibia y Hormaguei**
 1819-1866 **Bernardo Gárate y López de Arizmendi**
 1831-1863 **José Antonio Larteano de Zubiría y Escalante**
 1840-1849 **Juan Manuel de Irrizarri y Peralta**

Appendix Six

Text and Translation of the Oldest Known Letter Written in Basque

On February 15, 1537 Bishop of Mexico **Juan de Zumárraga** wrote a lengthy letter, predominantly in Castilian Spanish, to distant relative **Kattalin Ruiz Muntsaratz** in Abadiño, Bizkaia. However, some of the letter was written in Basque. He used Basque to inform Kattalin that he, and others, were sending money and other valuable objects to her. The King of Castile sometimes confiscated silver and valuables that came from the colonies and Zumárraga wanted to avoid this occurrence. He dictated most of the letter but at one point he started writing in his own hand. The translation starts at that point.

“Lo de asta aquí señora hermana es de ajena mano lo que se sigue es letra de vuestro hermano fray Juan para con vuestra merced es todo lo que aquí diré en especial lo del bascuence.”

(What has been written up to this point, dear sister, has been written by another's hand; what follows is in the hand of your brother, Fray Juan. All that I shall write here is for you (alone), especially what is written in Basque.) Note: He used the term “brother” and “sister” in the religious vernacular. They were not siblings.

“Orayn bada ene arrebea douncsua alan yçango çara paradisuan alcarr dacuscula

Now, then, blessed sister of mine, you will be such in paradise where we shall see each other

bidaletan deusudaz An(c)so garcia gaz

I am sending to you with Antso Garcia, (Antso Garcia Larrazabal was Kattalin's nephew, living in Mexico)

onen yçenean doaçala gogoan garriac plater bj

and in his name, the following souvenirs: two plates,

jarrabat calderetachu bat taçconteacaz

a pitcher, a small cooking pot and a cup with beads

alaba orrendaco orren esposo onec bidaletan deusaz

For that daughter of yours, her husband is sending her

vrra catea eta lau erestun da joyela yru oe onac

a gold chain, four rings, and a gem, (and) the three good beds

lepatrapu galantorj nic liburuacaz eta aulquioc eta oeoc pere bay
That elegant scarf is from me, as well as the books, and those stools, and also those beds

guichica ta ondratuco dogu Munçarasco eseorj eta cure alabaen orj
A little at a time, we shall complete the dowry of Maria Ruyz with other things from here

obatuco ta ordratuco dogu Munçarasco eseorj eta çure alabaen orj
We shall better and honor that house of Muntsaratz and that of your daughter

gollara oc bere onac tira
Those spoons are good ones also

guztiocaz asegujn artuco dau çure arima dounsus orrec
(I hope that) your blessed soul will be pleased with all the things

aporta bajte orra quisa onean vein ese orreetara eta çure podrera
if one day they arrive at that house and to your control in good condition

eta ene erechian oba da guarda ditean exilic, orco miiocaytj
and in my opinion it is best that this be kept secret because of the gossips around there,

çerren mylla bider gueyago dala dan vano esango dabee
for they will surely say that it is worth a great deal more than it actually is

ynbidiaç aurqui esango bearr eztirean gauçaac
In their envy, they will be quick to say a number of unwarranted things.

durangoco gentea baçaut juizio gujchizcoa da ueyaena
I know the people of Durango; the majority of them have little judgment

casulla eta frontal bi doaz orayn joango dira gueyago
At this time I am sending a pair of chasubles and two antependia; I shall send more later.

orco elexaoen bere gomuta yçango gara Juanac biciçea emayten deuscula
We shall be mindful also of those churches there for as long as the Lord gives us life.

orayn bada ene arrebea fraydeon ostatuorj
Now, then, sister of mine, that hospice of the friars,

çure alabaen ese jauxi orri vrgaçi year deusagu ereguj bear dogu
(and) that deteriorated house of your daughter we must sustain, we must rebuild it,

çuc eta nic neba arreboac jauxiric dago
you and I, brother and sister; it has fallen into disrepair.

çure alabea da orren çimjenturic onaena
Your daughter is the best foundation for it.

gure llobau bere giçon prestu egin da
Also, this nephew of ours has become an honorable man;

asco yrabaztendau eta nic borondate onez emongo deusteet
he earns a great deal of money and I will gladly give them

edolaan bere garia errenta
at least the income from the wheat.

ene borondatea da ogueta amar edo berroquey mila marabjdi errenta davela
It is my intention that they have an income of thirty or forty thousand maravedises

frayed becatarioc acoguetaco
in order to give shelter to those sinful friars.

orayn çeuc ene arebea bear doçu artu errentea erjdayteco ardurea njc varriz bidaletaco
Now, you yourself, my sister, must take upon yourself the task of finding the income, and I of sending one.

Mjlla ducat bidalduco ditugula vrte onetan njc uste
I believe that this year we shall send a thousand ducats.

orayn vere çerbayta voa artuco deue...çataco bidurraren ez gueygo
We are also sending some now, and it is only for fear that it might be confiscated that we do not send more,

eta exilic daroaez maestruoc yrureun bana
and the ships' captains are secretly carrying three hundred (ducats) each.

memorjan daroaeçangauçac erosita ganecoagaz acudidu dagujçuela çurj
After they have acquired all the items they have on the purchase list, whatever is left they should hand over to you;

alaan escribietan deusat Vrtierj Sivilljara
that is what I am writing to Urti (Abendano) in Seville.

alegrabidy çure bioçz garbiorj andrea çara eta bacardia
May your pure heart be filled with joy. You are a lady, and alone.

ceruetaco Jauna yçango da çure faborean
The Lord in the heavens will favor you.

Munasarasco eseorj obato dago eta erriorj bere bay
That house of Muntzaratz as well as that town are better off

çeruco Jaunagaz eta vere andra natraleagas
with their heavenly Lord and with their natural (rightful) lady.

olaoc bere gujadu bite ondo
Make sure those foundries are managed well also,

edolaan vere yoen azpian egongo edo jauxico ez çara diruacati
and in any case, you will not be or fall under anyone's control because of the money.

çeuc yçango doçu vear dana çeuretaco ta besteanendaco vere
You will have what is necessary for yourself and even others.

esforça bidj çure bioçz noble orj
Let your noble heart take courage.

obato lagunetan çaytuela Munsaraseme lemloc ençuten dot
I have heard that those loyal people of Muntsaratz are helping you more;

esquerric asco devstet
I thank them very much for it.

ene gorayñiac emon vjte
Give them all regards on my behalf

eta alaan eta orayndo obato dagujela oneric aurrera guztioç
and I hope that they will continue doing well and even improve in the future.

ese orj vear dogula adelantado.”
We must advance the cause of that house.

After Zumárraga completed the Basque section, he switched back to Spanish:
“*Para que se alegre vuestra merced he escripto en el language olvidado e no como yo quisiera come pude.*”
(In order to cheer you up, I have written in the forgotten language, not as well as I would have liked, but as well as I could.”)

This translation and comments are taken from Buber’s Basque Page on the Internet and is the work of Professor **Joxe Mallea-Olaetxe** of the University of Nevada, Reno.

Appendix Seven

Additional Signatures and Rubrics of Basque Dignitaries and Friars in Early Nueva España

(The signatures of Spanish-born individuals are noted for the rubric at the end. This flourish was legally more important than the signature itself because it was difficult to duplicate or forge. Without it, a signature was not authentic. The rubric alone was sometimes all that was needed. Each Spanish boy, early in school, developed a rubric. This practice ended in the mid-19th century.)



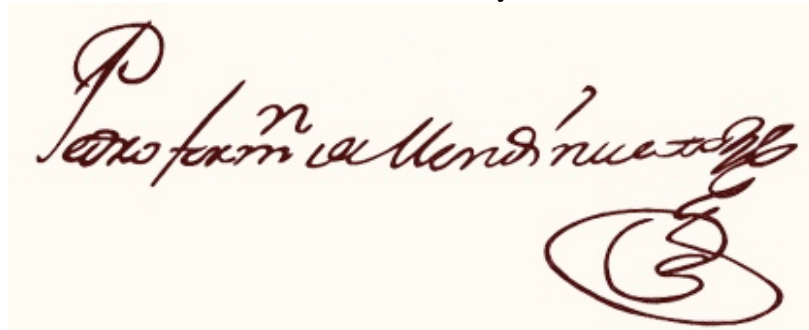
Don Bernardo López de Mendizábal
Governor of New Mexico, 1659-1661



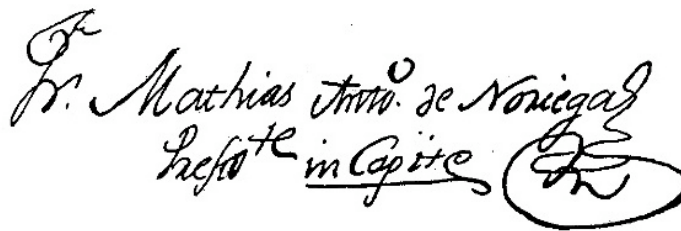
Fray Francisco de Ayeta
New Mexican Missionary, 1677



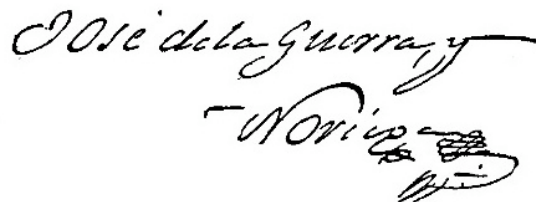
Fray José de Arranequi
Pecos, New Mexico Missionary, 1700-1708



Pedro Fermín de Mendinueta
Governor of New Mexico, 1767-1777



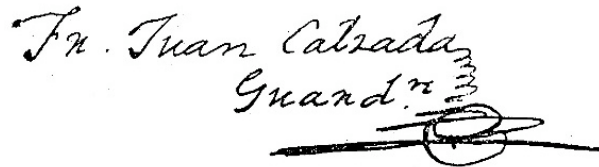
Mathías Antonio de Noriega
Alta California Missionary, 1779-1789



José de la Guerra y Noriega
Military Commander of Santa Barbara and Deputy to Mexican Congress, b.1779-d.1858

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Fr. Jose de Arroita". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background. Below the main text, there is a large, stylized flourish or underline.

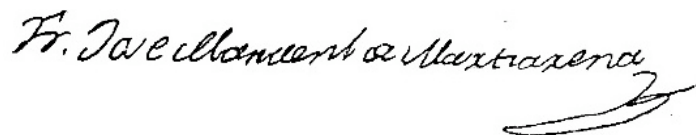
José de Arroíta
Alta California Missionary, 1786-1797

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Fr. Juan Calzada". Below the main text, there is a large, stylized flourish or underline.

Joseph Antonio Calzada
Alta California Missionary, 1787-1796 & 1798-1814

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Fr. Martin de Landaeta". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background. Below the main text, there is a large, stylized flourish or underline.

Martín de Landaeta
Alta California Missionary, 1791-1798

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Fr. Jose Manuel de Martiarena". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background. Below the main text, there is a large, stylized flourish or underline.

José Manuel de Martiarena
Alta California Missionary, 1794-1805

F. Fran^{co} Xavier Uría

Francisco Xavier Uría
Alta California Missionary, 1797-1805 & 1808-1834

F. Pablo María de Zárate

Fray Pablo María de Zárate
Baja California Missionary, 1797-1821

Fr. Josef Barona

Josef Barona
Alta California Missionary, 1798-1831

Fr. Jose Antonio de Uría

José Antonio de Uría
Alta California Missionary, 1799-1812

Fr. Domingo de Iturrate

Domingo de Iturrate
Alta California Missionary, 1800-1809

Fr. José Antonio de Urrestí

José Antonio de Urrestí
Alta California Missionary, 1804-1812

Fr. Marcos Amestoy

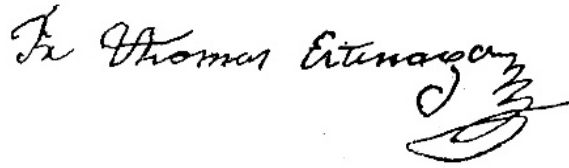
Marcos Amestoy
Alta California Missionary, 1804-1815

Fr. José María de Zalvidea

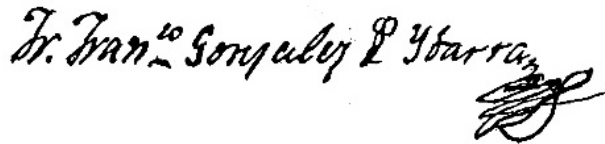
José María de Zalvidea
Alta California Missionary, 1805-1846

Fr. Román de Ulibarri

Román de Ulibarri
Alta California Missionary, 1809-1820



Thomás Esténaga
Alta California Missionary, 1820-1847



Francisco González de Ibarra
Alta California Missionary, 1820-1842

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